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# THE TIMES

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Bush announces 'no fly zone'

## Saddam moves jets south to confront West

By JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN NICOSIA

THE Middle East was last night braced for a renewed confrontation between Iraq and the West after the formal announcement of a 24-hour ultimatum imposing a strict "no fly zone" in southern Iraq below the 32nd parallel.

The announcement of the zone came only hours after the Pentagon claimed that Iraq has moved several Mirage 2000 jets, its top fighters, from bases in the north to airfields just above the 32nd parallel. The reason for the redeployment was unclear last night, but it suggests Iraq may mount a cat-and-mouse challenge to the allies by flying planes in and out of the prohibited zone quickly.

As Western diplomats informed the Iraqi ambassador at the United Nations of the "no fly zone", President Bush indicated that further military steps might be taken against Baghdad to stop any ground attacks on Shia Muslim rebels in southern Iraq.

In a televised statement announcing the exclusion zone, Mr Bush said the allies were not seeking to partition Iraq but force its compliance with UN resolutions ending the Gulf war.

Within minutes of his announcement, Arab delegates at Middle East peace talks in Washington condemned the "no fly zone" and said peace negotiations could be endangered. "Anger in the region will explode if the United States kills Iraqi pilots," said a senior Arab official.

Just before the ultimatum, Iraq's information minister, Youssef Humadi, said in an interview that Iraq would use its air defence system if it was attacked by Gulf allies barring its warplanes and helicopters from the Shia south.

Baghdad, claiming it was ready for a showdown, depicting the move as an Israeli-inspired plot to dismember Iraq into three mini-states dominated separately by the Kurds and the Sunni and Shia Muslims.

"Our great people... and our valiant armed forces are fully prepared to confront the enemies and topple their imperialist and Zionist schemes," said Al-Thawra, the paper of the ruling Baath party, in bellicose rhetoric reminiscent of that used on the eve of last year's Gulf war. "We are ready to confront them and crush their criminal plan. We defy the charlatan Major, the cursed Bush," the paper declared in a banner headline.

Allied warplanes, operating from Saudi Arabia and the US aircraft carrier Independence in central Gulf waters, will start enforcing the ban at 14.15 (GMT) today. Most of the 54,000 square miles will fall on America, which has more than 100 fighters in Saudi Arabia, including F15 and F16 aircraft, and 78 warplanes on the Independence. The military operation will be directed by a 30-strong air warfare battle group based in

Riyadh, the Saudi capital, and commanded by Lieutenant General Michael Nelson.

The Pentagon announced yesterday that surveillance aircraft, Grumman E2s, were already monitoring airspace in the zone. Later today Boeing E3 early warning and command aircraft will start flying. Six RAF Tornados will today fly to Saudi Arabia equipped to ensure that nothing moves south of the 32nd parallel without the allies knowing about it. The RAF plans to keep a constant watch on the estimated 75,000 Iraqi troops grouped around the Shia marsh Arabs and to ensure that no Iraqi aircraft flies in the area.

An Iraqi Shia opposition group based in Tehran, the Islamic Action Organisation, claimed that an army division and a brigade were moved to the south from the Baghdad and Kirkuk areas to "reinforce the economic and military blockade of the area".

Among the contingencies being taken into account in the West was that Saddam might retaliate with Scud missile attacks on Saudi Arabia, Bahrain or Kuwait, all equipped with US Patriot anti-missile batteries. A Scud attack on Israel was considered less likely.

In Baghdad yesterday, a senior United Nations official said Iraq had issued a warning that all remaining UN guards would have to leave if attacks were launched under the allied scheme. The number of UN staff there has dwindled to about 75 and harassment of UN personnel was feared. A crucial test will come next Monday when a new UN inspection team is due in Baghdad.

Many allied officials see the new zone as merely a "first step" in a renewed drive to undermine Saddam. It is hoped that it will encourage large defections from his armed forces.

Tornadoes fly out, page 2  
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## UN ready to expand Bosnia peace force

By MICHAEL BINYON AND TIM JUDAH

THE United Nations has received offers of more troops to expand its forces escorting food convoys in the former Yugoslavia, UN officials said yesterday at the opening of the London Conference.

Diplomats said this could lead to a greatly enlarged UN peacekeeping force in Bosnia, pre-empting any decision by Nato to send troops outside UN command, as envisaged in recent UN resolutions.

With Sarajevo in flames as fighting continued, the conference heard powerful warnings to Serbia that unless it renounced territory won by war and halted the fighting in Bosnia it faced international isolation and further "punitive sanctions", including communications with the outside world being cut.

The warnings, voiced by John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary,

who spoke for the European Community, came as speakers from all the big powers called for an immediate end to the fighting in Bosnia and urgent international action to speed up relief for its victims. Sarajevo burned as Bosnian Serbs and Muslims exchanged a barrage of mortar and artillery attacks which left 28 people dead. Hopes that the fighting would die down during the talks were dashed as the Bosnian capital saw its most intense battles for a month.

The city was rocked by explosions, and buildings were burned, including the elegant and much-loved town hall. Volunteers formed a chain to carry water into the building.

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Diary, page 12

## Messy desk is sign of a sophisticated mind

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

UNTIDY desks may provide the key to new, user-friendly filing systems, the British Association for the Advancement of Science was told yesterday.

People with desks heaped with paper do not have untidy minds, Mark Lansdale, of Loughborough University, said. Often they had devised effective personal systems for finding documents. The growing pile of paper was not as inefficient a way of dealing with information as it appeared.

Dr Lansdale likened the messy desk to a volcano: "a vaguely conical heap of papers with a crater in the middle". Documents came into the crater and were dealt with; others were deferred, moving to the lip. If unimportant, they migrated to the edge of the desk, fell off and were thrown away by cleaners. "Documents to which this happens are

defining themselves as useless," Dr Lansdale said. "It is a stable system within which documents can be recovered, like an archaeologist digging through successive chronological layers." The system failed only when the mess became so intolerable that it had to be tidied, and the structure was lost.

The way in which memory was used to recall roughly where a document lay was also akin to archaeology, he said. It was located by time — how deeply it was buried — and context.

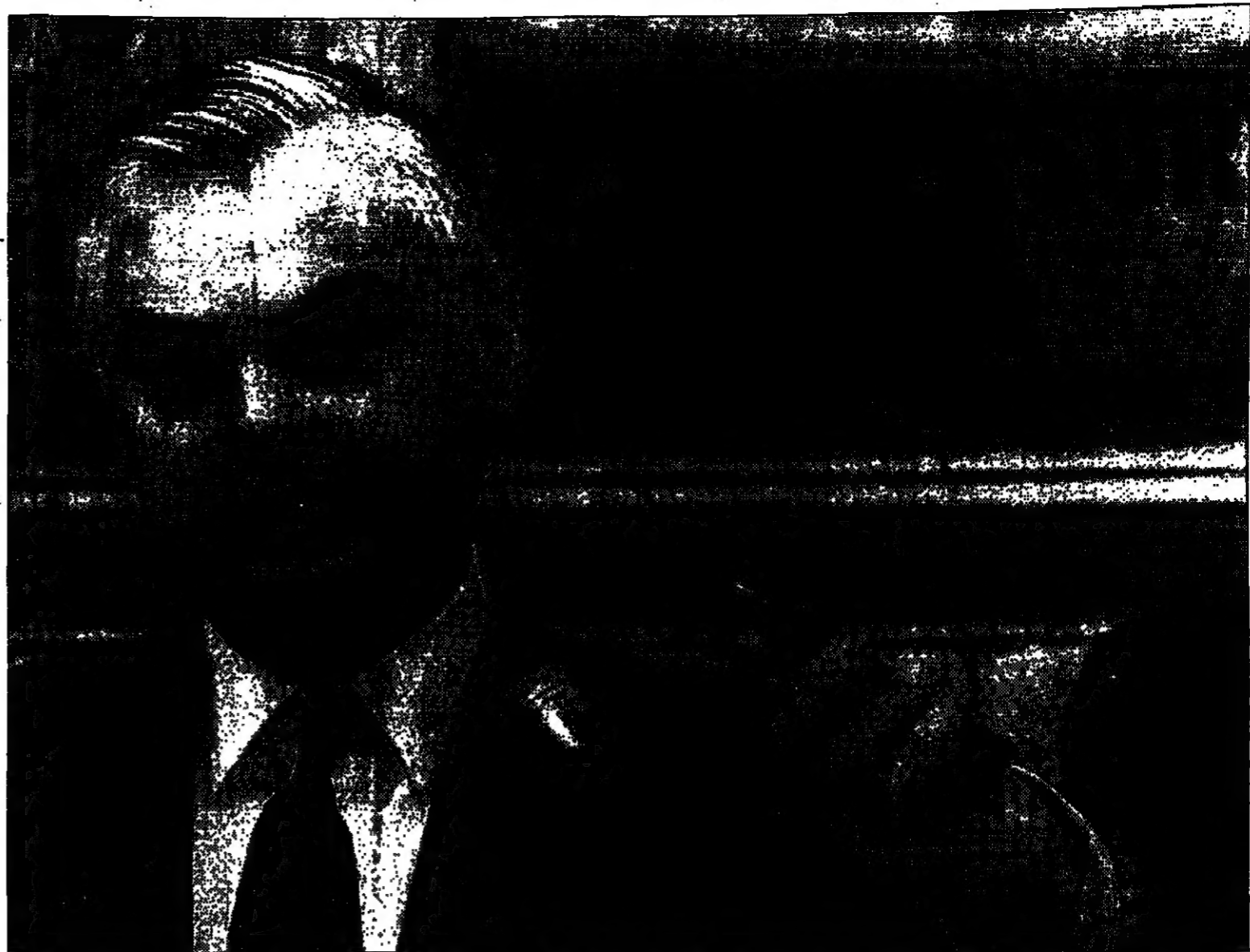
Unfortunately, he said, no existing filing systems or data bases used this type of memory, called episodic or autobiographical memory. They used semantic memory, in which documents must first be categorised. "Human beings are very inefficient at remembering these categories."

Dr Lansdale has devised an experimental filing system, called Memoirs, in an attempt to mimic the way the human

memory works. Documents are coded in a multiplicity of ways, by date, colour and other features. Every time a document is used, its use is recorded in an electronic diary, so that remembering the last time it was seen can aid retrieving it. The system was at least five years away from the market, Dr Lansdale said. "Until that moment comes, the office mess seems well suited to the way the human memory works."

If so, tidying up could be a serious mistake. "In precisely the same way that a farmer's plough can destroy an archaeological site, so rummaging around for documents slowly mixes them up and decreases the ability to recover them by memory and reconstruction," he said. "How often do we hear people say, 'I've just tidied up — I can't find a thing'."

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Taking the strain: Norman Lamont outside the Treasury yesterday making his direct challenge to the markets in support of the pound

## Renting has the edge over home buying

With the housing market in turmoil, more people are thinking twice before investing in bricks and mortar. *Lin Jenkins asks if they are wise*

Renting a home is more profitable than buying in the short term, according to research published today by the Council of Mortgage Lenders.

The financial advantages of home ownership, through rising prices, mortgage interest tax relief and exemption from capital gains tax, which for years made it more economical to buy rather than rent, have been eroded by the recession. But in the long term, owner-occupation is expected to remain the most popular form of tenure.

The recent fall in house prices together with the decline in the value of mortgage interest tax relief since the mid-70s, has, according to Landis Abisogun, an economist with the council, opened to question the assumption that ownership is the most financially viable option.

Taking three hypothetical examples and making certain financial assumptions, she compared the cost of buying a £55,000 house with renting where there was an annual 5 per cent increase in house prices, where there was no rise and where prices were falling by 2 per cent a year.

In the first case, buying would save £1,713 over renting in the first year. In the second example, renting gave a net advantage of £1,113 and where prices were falling, an advantage of £2,288.

The examples take into account the relationship between the movement of house prices and rents. Rising house prices lead to higher rents since fewer properties are likely to be let, while falling prices have the opposite effect.

## Lamont shows his determination to sink or swim with the pound

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR, AND COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound pulled through another bumpy day yesterday after Norman Lamont staked his personal credibility in a direct challenge to the markets. But despite heavy and open intervention by the Bank of England and the Chancellor's readiness to raise interest rates if necessary, the currency remained in intensive care.

Political allies and opponents acknowledged that Mr Lamont had put his political future at risk by summoning cameras to the Treasury as markets opened to announce the government's commitment to the exchange-rate mechanism and to its refusal to consider devaluation. Should either policy be reversed, it would be difficult for him to remain as Chancellor, even if he then wished to do so.

"There are going to be no devaluations, no leaving the ERM. We are absolutely committed to the ERM. It is at the centre of our policy," Mr Lamont said. "We are going to maintain sterling's parity and we will do whatever is necessary — and I hope

there is no doubt about that at all."

His words steadied the pound, but only slightly. Less than helpful interventions from the Bundesbank and a French opinion poll showing that most of those intending to vote were against radicalisation of the Maastricht treaty soon had it bumping along the bottom while reactions to his remarks advertised again Tory divisions over Europe and the economy.

Having risen above Dm 2.8 after Bank of England buying, the pound fell back when it was reported that Reimut Jochimsen, a Bundesbank council member, was suggesting that there was "potential for realignment" of the deutschmark. When Mr Jochimsen delivered the speech, the offending passage was not included. But the Treasury's agitation showed when spokesmen assured the markets that no EC partners were calling for realignment.

The pound's difficulties remained grist to the mill for Tory Euro-sceptics while loyalists helped to prepare the party for a rise in interest

rates. Sir Teddy Taylor, chairman of the European Reform Group, called the Chancellor's statement a mistake and said he had "put his head on the chopping block". While Toby Jessel said "My advice would be not to increase interest rates but to cut them even if that involves leaving the ERM."

Their comments were dismissed as extremely unhelpful by Tory party vice-chairman Tim Smith, who said: "They know that if we were to follow the alternatives there is no guarantee whatever that we would be able to cut interest rates." For John Butcher, the only credible strategist was to make people believe in the pound. "The reason the deutschmark is so strong is that the Bundesbank has never flinched from taking unpopular and painful decisions whenever necessary."

Ian Taylor, PPS to William Waldegrave, said that some colleagues were trying to exploit sterling's difficulties to discredit the Maastricht treaty. "The turbulences in the markets underline how vital it is for British interests that we are within the ERM. Anyone trying to undermine that is guaranteeing that British interests will have to be several points higher."

Mr Lamont won support from Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, who described the Chancellor's morning statement as a "desperate last throw" that he hoped would work. Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, accused Mr Lamont of wasting an opportunity.

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ADVERTISEMENT

## FAIR PLAY FOR YUGOSLAVIA AT THE LONDON CONFERENCE

We are a group of British citizens who have known and loved Yugoslavia for many years and like everyone else, we are horrified at the catastrophe that has befallen that country. Narrow nationalism, bordering on insanity, is rampant on all sides and has been cunningly manipulated by outsiders, particularly by Austria and Germany. Civil wars are the most terrifying of conflicts; this one is no exception. No side has behaved well. However those of us who know the country, its people, their culture and their past, are moved to outrage at the one-sided reporting of this war: The Serbian people alone has been blamed. With one or two honourable exceptions, no journalist has gone to see, hear or record the horrors experienced by the half-million refugees which have been forced to flee to Serbia and Montenegro. "Ethnic cleansing" is indeed particularly horrible but, as pointed out by Simon Wiesenthal, it was begun by the Croats in the nationalist regime in 1941-45. It still continues. It has always formed a central part of Croatian nationalist doctrine.

Europe is familiar with the crimes of Auschwitz and Treblinka. British troops liberated Belsen. But few have heard of Jasenovac, where hundreds of thousands of Serbs were exterminated as part of the deliberate policy of the 'Independent State of Croatia' (1941-45). This 'state' included within its borders the whole of today's Bosnia-Herzegovina. The deportations and slaughter is why the Serbs are now only 32% of the population of Bosnia, when 50 years ago they formed the majority community. These memories live on. Who indeed could forget such things? That, above all else, is why the Serbs insist on the recognition by Europe of their status, their sufferings and their rights as a people.

The Slovans, Croats, Serbs, Montenegrins and others are all small peoples. Together they could be strong. Apart, each will be exploited by strong neighbours — sooner rather than later. But if 'self-determination' is regarded as a democratic right, then there can be no exception made for those who wish to remain in a state called Yugoslavia.

We call upon the British government as convenors of the London conference, to adopt an even-handed approach: the sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro, which remain a stupefying injustice, must be lifted and the new form of Yugoslavia recognized.

FRIENDS OF YUGOSLAVIA

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Journey's end: Richard Shenouda, the survivor of the capsized speedboat, which is shown being hauled ashore near Llandudno



## Five anglers feared dead as boat sinks

By PAUL WILKINSON

FIVE people were believed drowned yesterday after a night fishing trip off the north Wales coast went wrong. A sixth member of the party was in hospital, recovering from hypothermia and exhaustion after spending two hours in the water.

Coastguards who spent more than 24 hours searching for the party after their 17ft speedboat capsized in rough seas off Llandudno criticised the foolhardiness of the group for setting out in a boat that was poorly equipped and too small.

The survivor, Richard Shenouda, 19, from Llandudno, told his rescuers that the engine had failed and would not restart because the battery was faulty. The boat had only one lifebelt on board and distress flares would not work because they were damp.

A Holyhead coastguard said: "Personally I would say no more than two people should have been in the boat, four in calm weather, but I certainly wouldn't go out at night in it at all."

Mr Shenouda said that when they set out the sea was quite calm, but the waves became rougher as they drifted. "As we pulled up, the anchor rope snapped. We

made several attempts to shout for help when we were drifting out, but we weren't heard.

"We were drifting for about half an hour. We weren't worried at first because we had the flares, but when they didn't work there was bit of panic. The sea got a bit rough and the boat capsized, leaving all six of us to jump out.

"I went ashore to try to get me rescue services, but I didn't make it. I was picked up just off the pier. It was rough and took me about two hours to get from where we were to the end of the pier, about a mile."

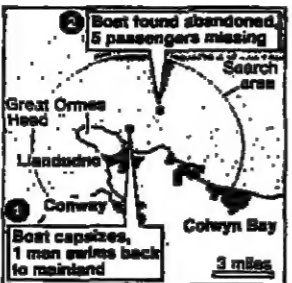
Coastguards said he was lucky that the sea temperature was about 14C. The group of five men and a woman had left the seaside resort about 7.30pm on Monday. Soon after 10pm anglers on Llandudno pier heard shouting in the dark out to sea. One of

them, Reg Davies from Liverpool, thought it was youngsters skylarking and shouted back for them to be quiet, but a voice replied, "We aren't messing about, we are all bloody drowning." He stayed while a companion raised the alarm. Mr Davies said the screaming went on for about an hour before fading as they were apparently taken out to sea.

Three air-sea rescue helicopters joined the search and three lifeboats were launched. Coastguard cliff rescue teams searched, though Monday night and all day yesterday along the banks of the Conwy estuary. Soon after dawn yesterday a helicopter crew spotted the upturned hull of the boat but an exhaustive search failed to find any sign of the missing anglers. Last night divers were preparing for an underwater search for bodies.

Those still unaccounted for are Tracy Hughes, 28, Barry Palin, 20, Christian Mills, 22, and his brother Justin, 19, all from Llandudno, and Alex Yates from Rhos-on-Sea, near Llandudno.

The white speedboat had also been in trouble last Sunday. She was towed into Rhos-on-Sea by a local boat last Sunday after being unable to restart the engine.



## Lamont rating slips back in the City

By ALAN HAMILTON

JUST in case there is the slightest scintilla of doubt about the Government's policy, said the Chancellor, Norman Lamont, in the course of 137 words on the steps of the Treasury yesterday morning. Scintilla? Yes, spark, hint or trace. It takes more than a scintilla to light a damp squib. There is, they were saying on trading floors of the City by noon, no whiff of singed chancellor around here.

His timing, the City thought, was pretty dull. Promised for eight, not appearing until twenty past, and then having the gall to say he would like a word before the markets opened. Your average currency trader is at his screen no later than 7.45.

So here is our poor pound, something of an innocent bystander at a duel between the dollar and the Deutschmark, hobbling along at 2.7950 to the mark when Mr Lamont comes on the early morning screens. There is an air of expectancy. But his 137 words contain, in the view of the City, absolutely nothing at all.

David Simmonds, economist on the currency trading floor at Midland Montagu, was in front of his screen well before eight. "There was speculation that the Chancellor

would break his silence and say something relevant. We were hoping he would say something positive, like what action, if needed, would be taken to defend the pound. He might even have mentioned the magic words *interest rates*, but he said nothing."

Nikki Nelson-Smith, sitting at the next screen to Mr Simmonds, agreed. "He might even have said that the Bank of England were intervening to support sterling. They did, but he didn't say it. He really needs to make it look as though he is being more forceful in defence of the currency."

Within minutes of Mr Lamont spewing his thin gruel upon an expectant world, the pound had shot up to 2.80 to the mark; such tiny percentages mean much in the arcane world of moneychanging. But Mr Lamont got no credit whatsoever. Within minutes of him speaking, the Bank of England had mobilised its \$45 billion (£22.63 billion) war chest to buy sterling on the market and support the price.

But it didn't last long. Just over an hour after Mr Lamont had delivered the Sermonette On The Steps, Reuters news agency was flashing a leak from a speech which a relatively minor official of the Deutsche Bundesbank was due to make later in the day, saying that there was room for ERM realignment.

So sensitive is the market that within minutes of this news, the pound had dropped back from its brief 2.80 peak to 2.79, marginally worse than the position in which it had started the day.

Our finance minister had been upstaged by a speech from a lowly provincial German functionary which he hasn't even made yet. Next time, perhaps we should get the branch manager of the TSB in Wigan to make the speech.

Bumpy day, page 1  
Sterling lifted, page 17

## RAF Tornados fly to Dhahran today

Electronic equipment on RAF aircraft will play an important role in enforcing the no-fly zone in Iraq, says Harvey Elliott

SIX RAF Tornados will fly to Saudi Arabia today, equipped to ensure that no aircraft or tank moves south of the 32nd parallel in Iraq without the allies knowing about it.

Three of the jets will carry the GEC Ferranti Tiald device capable of spotting tanks, aircraft or troops over a wide area from well above 20,000ft, while the other three will carry the RMS 3,000 infra-red system, with which they will sweep the desert from a height of little more than 100ft. By using the two systems in parallel the RAF plans to maintain a constant watch on the estimated 75,000 Iraqi troops now grouped around the Shia marsh Arabs and to ensure that no Iraqi aircraft, either fixed-wing or helicopter, flies in the area.

One of the first jobs of the Tornado airmen will be to take detailed video pictures of earthworks - now appearing near Al Amarah and An Nasiriyah in southern Iraq. Satellites and high-flying AWacs have been monitoring the progress of the earthworks as they move further into the marshes, but so far little is known of their purpose. The Tornados will quickly be able to establish whether they are hardened roads, being built ready for a large

armoured assault on the insurgents in the area or whether they are some form of canal to be used to drain the marshes and divert the vital water supplies on which the local population depends.

For some of the Tornado crews it will be their second tour of combat duty in the Gulf. Tiald, which stands for Thermal Imaging Airborne Laser Designator, was rushed into service during the Gulf war more than two years ahead of its intended deployment date.

Only ten navigators had been trained in using the two pods then available. Some of the most experienced are being sent back to fly over the same areas in which they carried out successful sorties during the war.

The Tiald crews will be drawn from 2 and 617 Squadrons, flying Tornado GR1s, and the GR1As, equipped with RMS 3,000, will come from 27 Squadron. Once in Dhahran they will come under joint allied control, liaising with French and American Air Force commanders, who will provide fighter cover for the RAF jets and any ground attacks that might be needed to enforce the no-fly rule.

No-fly zone, page 1

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Woman murdered in betting shop

The manageress of a betting shop was killed after being stabbed repeatedly with a long-bladed kitchen knife as she counted the shop's takings, police said last night. The killer escaped with £350. Ladbroke's has offered a £10,000 reward for information about the murder of Sian Collier, 24, in her office in Newport, Gwent. The killer, who would have been heavily bloodstained, walked out of the shop, closing the front door behind him, police said.

Two policemen discovered Mrs Collier's body on Tuesday night, alerted by her husband, Andrew, when she failed to return to their home in Pontypool. The lights in the office were on and racing monitor screens were still running. Police believe that she was killed between 5.50pm and 6.30pm. The murder weapon was found in the shop.

Ladbroke's said: "Mrs Collier was very popular with customers and staff alike." Det Chief Supt Mark Walters, head of Gwent CID, said: "This young woman's family are absolutely stunned. She was, by every account, well known and liked and her betting shop was a friendly and well-run place." Police believe that Mrs Collier, a St John Ambulance volunteer, may have recognised her attacker and could have been trying to telephone for help as she was killed.

Alan Tucker, an assistant commissioner for St John Ambulance, said that Mrs Collier had been a member of the Gwent Brigade for 15 years, after starting as a cadet. "She was a very outstanding girl. This is a dreadful shock."

## Stolen casket found

The £200,000 Florentine casket stolen from the Victoria & Albert Museum last Sunday has been recovered after nationwide publicity. A dealer in the West End of London is understood to have bought it yesterday, only to discover its true identity later. He has asked police to keep his identity secret. "He will be out of pocket," Chelsea police said yesterday. The casket bears the Medici arms, grand ducal crown and Florentine lily, and is decorated with panels containing the figures of Mars and Minerva.

## Petrol tanker on fire



A river of fire engulfed 42 cars yesterday after a petrol tanker carrying 8,000 gallons of fuel rolled on its side as it swerved to avoid a van. Seconds later the blaze erupted as petrol spilled from the tanker, above. The liquid ran down a side street in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, setting light to everything in its path, including parked cars, and then swept into a swimming pool's car park, engulfing more vehicles. The normally busy Newcastle Road was deserted when the accident took place and just three people were taken to hospital with slight burns. David Knight, 47, the tanker driver, of Hartlepool, Cleveland, was burnt on his face and arms as he struggled to escape from his cab.

## NHS buys hospital

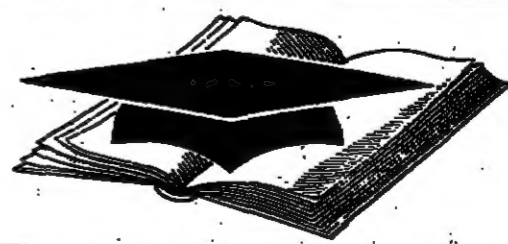
A financially desperate private hospital is being bought by its National Health Service equivalent next door. The recession and health authority success in reducing NHS waiting lists have put the 18-month-old West Peaks Hospital at Macclesfield, Cheshire, out of business. The purchase is to be completed today. West Peaks cost more than £6 million to build, but Macclesfield Health Authority is paying only £2 million. Macclesfield District General Hospital will open a 56-bed orthopaedics ward at West Peaks, freeing space for a long-awaited maternity unit in the general hospital. Two health care firms built hospitals in the town, and Bioplan found West Peaks unviable.

President unstack, page 11



Body: Major cannot have it both ways

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THE TIMES

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The British Association at Southampton: design, genetics, pollution, sea research and body scans

## Genes tell the story of a nation divided

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

BRITAIN'S ancient past, when lands were colonised by Vikings, Angles and other invaders sweeping in from Europe, is still echoed in the genes of the nation's population.

Researchers have identified 12 national boundaries in which the genetic make-up of the people differs markedly from those living nearby or in other parts of the country, the British Association for the Advancement of Science in Southampton was told.

The findings, based on detailed analysis of 14 different blood features including blood groups, proteins and enzymes, have been made by a team led by Professor Robert Sokal of the State University of New York.

The researchers believe that the blood features reflect the different genetic sequences that are common or rare in the peoples living in those areas, which in turn reflects their

different racial pasts. Derek Roberts of Newcastle University, who has spent much of his working life collating the data on which the study was based, said that some of the boundaries could be linked with historical evidence indicating that as new invaders arrived older racial groups were pushed farther west and north.

One boundary cuts through East Anglia, separating Suffolk from Norfolk. Historical evidence indicates that different groups of Angles settled in those areas and that is reflected in the different dialects of today. Other boundaries separate the northwest Highlands from the Outer Hebrides and Northern Ireland from Scotland's west coast.

Boundaries are also found along the Marches between England and Wales, dividing East Anglia from Yorkshire and Humberside and the Orkneys from the rest of the

Scottish mainland. "One also picks off the southwest peninsula. It picks off Devon and Cornwall from the rest, which was really quite surprising," Professor Roberts said. The popular view was that Cornwall and Wales shared a Celtic past, which should be reflected in a similar genetic make-up.

Malcolm Smith of Durham University said that the genes in the two areas were "not especially similar or as similar as one might expect if they were both Celtic-founded populations". It was possible that the strong Celtic tradition of Cornwall was cultural rather than based on large numbers of Celtic settlers.

Studies have also found that the genes of the populations of the central Lake District are closer to the population of Norway than are the populations of Carlisle, Whitehaven and the rest of Cumbria. The findings match historical evidence that the central Lake District had a Viking past, illustrated by such place names as Rydale and Threlkeld.

Professor Roberts said that the population of the Orkneys appeared to be the most ancient, at the limit of north-west Europe's genetic make-up. There was also a high prevalence of certain proteins linked with auto-immune diseases such as multiple sclerosis, which was reflected in the health of those islands. Professor Roberts said the higher incidence of stomach cancer in North Wales might also reflect different historical settlement patterns.

The increasing opportunity of travel and a rise in racially mixed marriages has prompted some researchers to suggest that inherited disease might decline as fewer people marry within the communities where they were born. Professor Roberts said, however, that this was not likely to be the case. He said the new people coming in were bringing with them different genetic diseases. Sickle cell anaemia from the West Indies, for example, was one of a number of diseases unknown in Britain before the last war.



She sets the limit: the astronomer Heather Couper addressing delegates at the British Association meeting yesterday. She said that astronomy was not an esoteric science, but one that was increasingly accessible.

## Machine offers hope for liver patients

A BODY scanner developed by British researchers may improve the treatment of children with liver disease and help in the design of artificial breasts for mastectomy victims. It would also cut out the need for men's tailors to take inside leg measurements (Nick Nuttall writes).

The scanner, called the Loughborough Anthropometric Shadow Scanner, has been developed by a team in the human sciences department at Loughborough University. It uses four narrow shafts of light to plot a subject's shape, size and area. The researchers are working with Marks & Spencer and artificial breast makers to improve the design of bras for women who have had breasts removed. The scanner would calculate the amount of tissue removed during an operation. The developers are also working with scientists at the Department of Child Health at King's College Hospital, London on a link between liver diseases in children and the surface areas of their bodies. It is hoped that three-dimensional images can improve treatment.

Better understanding of people's shapes may also lead to improved designs for clothes, furniture and cars. Visitors to a tailor of the future may find themselves standing in a body stocking on a turntable, with images fed into a computer. The information could be turned into a two-dimensional pattern within minutes, from which a suit could be cut. People with facial disfigurements suffer subtle forms of rejection even when those they meet try very hard to conceal them. Ray Bull, of the University of Portsmouth, said research confirmed that disfigured people were pitied, subordinated and ignored by those they met.

In one experiment, a researcher tried knocking on doors collecting for a children's charity. At some doors she had her normal appearance while at others she had a small port-wine stain painted below one eye. She collected less when she had the stain.

## Makers blamed for baffling technology

ADULTS who feel inadequate as they struggle to cope with a blinking video recorder or a flashing microwave oven should blame the makers (Nick Nuttall writes).

Harold Thimbleby of Stirling University said yesterday that designers of household equipment appeared obsessed with creating an increasingly bewildering array of buttons rather than machines that were easy to use. Manufacturers had the temerity to suggest that bewildered adults should seek help from their children.

Professor Thimbleby said that children were more successful because of their habit of pressing scores of buttons at random and for many hours. Adults, however, tried to apply logic to devices that defied such thought processes.

He said that his home video recorder and television together had more than 105 buttons. Many car radios had more than 25 buttons and tiny screens with writing a mere 1.5mm high, and the frustration of working them had led to accidents in which pedestrians had been killed.

Professor Thimbleby urged manufacturers to cast aside their enthusiasm for sophisticated displays that would increase their profits. They should return to simple ergonomic designs with clearly written manuals, he said.

Researchers in Cambridge have developed a pager-sized device that will remind workers to pass messages to their colleagues. The users will programme the mini-computer with details of messages and their intended recipients. The devices communicate with infra-red beams and when two colleagues meet an alarm sounds and a screen displays the reminder.

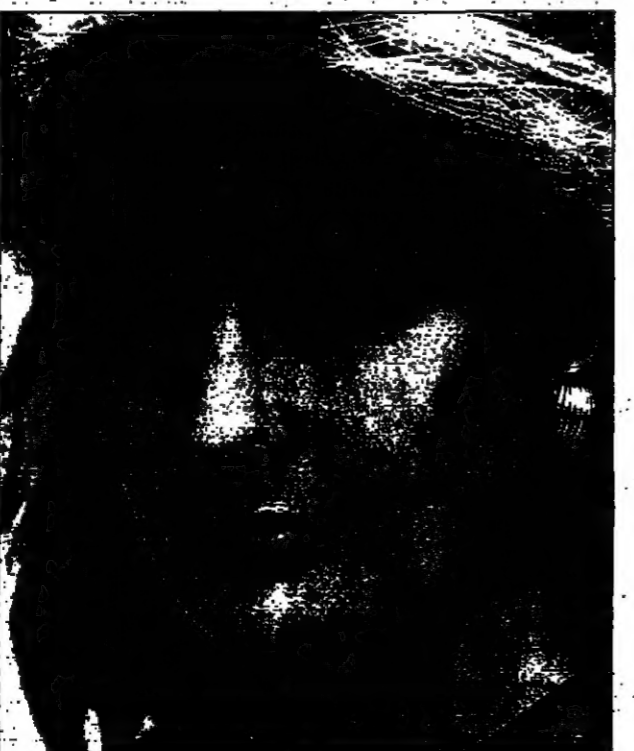
Details of the device were disclosed by Abigail Sellen of the Rank Xerox EuroPARC in Cambridge. Dr Sellen said people relied on passive memory aids such as diaries and notes, and on watches with beeping alarms.



Handy reminder: the Cambridge 'notebook'.

She said that she envisaged the installation of infra-red devices on equipment such as coffee machines that could trigger reminders about who liked sugar or low-fat milk in their drink. In the future the devices might be triggered by infra-red devices installed in shops and would display a list of groceries or other goods available there.

Leading article, page 13



Dr Sellen envisages widespread use of computer.

## Waves grow taller in Atlantic

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE North Atlantic is becoming rougher. Observations from weather ships 300 miles west of Ireland and the Seven Stones lighthouse off the southern tip of Cornwall have shown that average wave heights increased by about 30 per cent in the past 30 years.

Sheldie Bacon of the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences' Dagon Laboratory at Wormley in Surrey, outlined the puzzle data yesterday at the association's annual conference. Seven Stones, the average wave height increased from 1.8 metres in 1960 to 2.4 metres in 1985, when observations ceased because Trinity House made the lighthouse automatic. This increase is matched at the more northerly stations. Overall, he said, the increase was 30 per cent — or 1 per cent a year.

Waves are caused by wind and the obvious feature of the observations, first reported in the late 180s, is that there is no corresponding evidence of stronger winds. To try to find the cause Mr Bacon studied satellite pictures of the atmosphere over the Atlantic and found a steady increase in the average difference in pressure between the low over Iceland and the high generally found over the Azores. This change correlated closely with the increase in wave heights. Although the winds are no stronger, they may blow more consistently in the same direction than before, possibly because the pressure trends. This would enable larger waves to be built up by winds of the same average speed.

## Rivers blamed for dirty coast

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

MOST pollutants found in the sea around Britain's coast get there through the rivers, according to a survey by the National Rivers Authority.

Jan Pentreath, the authority's chief scientist, told the annual meeting of the British Association yesterday that a £1 million survey of 129 rivers, 131 sewage outfalls and 105 industrial outfalls had revealed the route by which nine of the most hazardous pollutants reached the sea.

The pollutants included metals such as mercury, cadmium, zinc and copper, and chemicals such as a polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides, and agriculture fertilisers.

In most cases, rivers were the source of more than half

the pollutants reaching the sea, with the balance coming from sewage works and industry based along the coast.

Three-quarters of the lead and 88 per cent of the nitrate, for example, came down rivers. One of the few exceptions was cadmium, of which more than 60 per cent came from coastal industry.

Dr Pentreath told the association that it was essential to know exactly how all these chemicals got into the sea so that they could be controlled more effectively.

"The real and difficult task is that of reducing the input of various chemicals — particularly insecticides, herbicides, and some industrial chemicals — which arise diffusely via

rivers or through sewage outfalls," Dr Pentreath said.

The authority's approach was attacked by Susan Mayer from the environmental pressure group Greenpeace, who said that the consents given to companies by the National Rivers Authority for discharges amounted to "legalised pollution".

Ms Mayer added: "Not only does this allow toxic chemicals to be discharged into our waterways with impunity, but often allows discharge of chemicals which have not even been characterised."

"Therefore many pipelines are completely unregulated, the companies responsible cannot be prosecuted; only the environment will suffer as a result."

## Top schools A-level league in The Times

THE first ranking of A-level results to compare state and independent schools will appear in *The Times* on Saturday. At least 250 leading schools will be named in a special feature analysing the performance of the two sectors.

This year's improved performance at A level has produced marked fluctuations in the positions of state schools at the top of the league tables. Independent schools are expected to show similar improvement. The feature will chart the leading independent schools' results over the past five years. The result will be the most comprehensive picture yet of their A-level performance, a yardstick against which others can be judged.

## Holiday quiz

Fancy a challenge this bank holiday? Then order this Saturday's *Times* to be sure of your copy of the Jumbo crossword. You could win one of five £50 prizes.

## Quorn Hunt men convicted in private firearm prosecution

By Craig Seton

TWO employees of the Quorn Hunt in Leicestershire were found guilty of firearms offences yesterday following a private prosecution brought by the League Against Cruel Sports. The league presented video evidence taken by an undercover activist, which showed a fox being shot.

Appearing before magistrates at Loughborough, Leicestershire, Alan Betts, 42, a part-time terrier handler of Whitwick, Leicestershire, denied possessing a .22 pistol without a firearm certificate last October. He was found guilty and fined £100. He denied an alternative charge of acquiring the pistol without a certificate and was acquitted.

Christopher Doherty, 31, a kennelman who had a firearm certificate for the weapon, was found guilty of failing to comply with a condition that the gun be kept in a safe place when not in use. He was acquitted of failing to comply with another condition restricting its use to the slaughter of animals during his employment. He gave his address as the Quorn Hunt Kennels.

Tom Hart, for the league, said the prosecution followed a hunting expedition at

Shepshed when a fox went to ground in a wood and was dug out and shot dead by Betts, who did not hold a firearm certificate. Leicestershire police had investigated the incident, but the Crown Prosecution Service had decided to take no action.

Doherty told the court he had handed the gun to Betts because he could not get into a position to shoot the fox himself. He had been a member of the Master of Foxhounds Association. Betts had held the gun for 25 seconds when it was unloaded and for five seconds when it was loaded before it was handed back. Betts, who is now unemployed, said he had not been aware he was doing anything wrong.

The incident had been filmed by Michael Huskisson, an animal welfare campaigner who infiltrated the hunt as a devotee of the sport. Mr Hart said the case was not about whether hunting was an acceptable sport, although the league wanted it to be banned by law. It was to decide whether there had been breaches of the Firearms Act of 1968.

Mr Huskisson, a photographic researcher who wrote down his address for the magistrates, showed the court parts of a video film taken when he accompanied hunt supporters. He said that a fox was being held by a terrier when it was pulled from its hole before being shot by Betts and thrown to the hounds.

Cross-examined by Bob Anderson, in the defence, he agreed he had been a press officer with the league and had used the names Mike Wilkins, Michael Wright and Mike Roberts and that he had also been involved in incidents including the desecration of John Peel's grave and another involving the Royal College of Surgeons that had involved 60 masked men with sledgehammers.

After the hearing James Barrington, executive director of the league, said it had been right to bring the prosecution. Other huntsters across the country were probably involved in similar activities and this had been a shot across their bows.

Brian Tod, for the Master of Foxhounds Association, said: "The league will use any stick however small to try to beat hunting."

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Journalists say BBC 'lacked commitment'

## Rough Justice team defects to Channel 4

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THREE members of BBC Television's *Rough Justice* team, including its presenter, David Jessel, have defected to Channel 4, where they have been promised greater scope and freedom to conduct more hard-hitting investigations into miscarriages of justice.

Channel 4 will announce today that it is to launch a rival series, provisionally titled *Trial And Error*.

Mr Jessel and Steve Haywood, the programme's producer, said that they decided to leave the BBC after it became apparent that it was lessening its commitment to *Rough Justice*. The series had been cut to one edition last year.

BBC senior management "failed to give us much support or share in any of our triumphs," Mr Jessel said.

"Whenever we asked when the next edition of *Rough Justice* was going to be on the air, they would just shrug their shoulders. I couldn't stand being cut back when *Crimewatch UK* and other such programmes glorifying the police were expanding like a great fungus. We never heard a word of thanks from BBC management when the murder convictions of both the Darvell brothers and Jacqueline Fletcher were quashed. Nor could we ever really rely

on their support whenever we were attacked by those in high places."

Earlier this week, Channel 4 signed a two-year contract for three or more programmes each year from Just Television, an independent production company founded by Mr Jessel. Steve Phelps, producer of the *Rough Justice* programme that led to the release of the Darvell brothers last month, and Mr Haywood, who took over from Mr Phelps as producer in 1989, Justice, the pressure group that supplied the programme with many of its cases, also signed a contract with *Trial And Error*.

The corporation is reported to be enraged by the defections. Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC Television, said claims that it was less committed to *Rough Justice* were "complete rubbish". Mr Wyatt, who rescued *Rough Justice* from cancellation in 1986 after a bitter attack by Lord Lane and a subsequent BBC internal enquiry, said: "We're not reducing our commitment to it at all. As long as it continues to produce the goods, the BBC will continue to broadcast it."

Paul Harnart, head of BBC documentary features, said that the programme would be extended to three editions a year, presented by

John Ware, a *Panorama* reporter. "The British justice system has all but collapsed and the BBC remains committed to uncovering miscarriages," he said.

Sources inside and outside the BBC said that the decision to increase the number of programmes was a reaction to *Trial And Error*. "The atmosphere is acrimonious to say the least," an insider said.

The row between the old team and BBC management began on June 30, when Channel 4 asked BBC executives whether they wanted to retain the *Rough Justice* title. Several weeks earlier, the BBC had offered Mr Haywood an extension of contract but, on July 1, several days after he opted to leave for Channel 4, the BBC began disciplinary proceedings against him.

Mr Phelps, who also worked with Mr Jessel last year as editor of *Hard News*, said: "We feel our deal with Channel 4 will preserve the integrity of our work. There will be no danger of it being mixed in with other genres. I find the apparent edging together of *Rough Justice* and *Inside Story* very worrying."

In the 10 years since *Rough Justice* began, eight convictions out of 17 cases taken up have been quashed or overturned after appeal.



Family trait: Edward Webb, left, is aiming to emulate the 1875 Channel crossing by Matthew Webb, right

## Choppy sea foils family 'double'

BY NICHOLAS WATT

THE world may have advanced in the last century, but some things never change. A choppy sea yesterday forced the great-great-nephew of Captain Matthew Webb, the first man to swim the Channel, to abandon an attempt to emulate his kinsman's crossing.

Edward Webb, 20, a draughtsman from Nottingham, was just half a mile from Dover when he had to turn back. Captain Webb, who swam across in 1875, may not have been impressed. Not only was Mr Webb kitted out in the latest gear, he was also crossing in a more leisurely way, by parasailing, winched up to a parachute towed by a speedboat.

Captain Webb crossed from Dover to Calais in 21 hours on 24 and 25 August, 1875. Although the Channel is 23 miles wide at this, its narrowest point, he swam 39 miles as currents made him zig zag.

Janet Webb, Edward's wife, said yesterday: "My husband tried the crossing three times this week, but each time the weather forced him to abandon the crossing. The Meteorological Office has said that the weather should be better by the end of the first week of September. He won't have to cover 39 miles because now-days we can plot currents much more effectively."

## Rail grants aim to cut road congestion

BY MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

RAILWAYS will, for the first time, receive grants for projects to reduce road congestion. Roger Freeman, the public transport minister, said yesterday. At the same time, antiquated regulations governing road and rail investment projects will be overhauled to end the bias in favour of new road schemes.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Freeman said that the reforms, contained in the government's rail privatisation white paper, should help to strengthen the financial case for particular rail investment projects and make it easier for ministers to compare the costs and benefits of competing road and rail schemes.

Traditionally, investment in new road projects has been judged on the basis of a given road's contribution to reduced journey times and accidents. By contrast, investment in most new rail schemes has been required to generate an 8 per cent return before being approved by government. The different investment procedures have given rise to allegations that the government's investment rules are loaded in favour of roads.

Under the reformed investment procedure, to come into effect when British Rail is privatised in 1994, such bias would be largely eliminated, Mr Freeman said. Once BR's fixed and rolling assets are separated, the new infrastruc-

ture authority, Railtrack, will be responsible for investment in new track and signalling systems, while the government's long-term aim will be to transfer responsibility for investment in new rolling stock to the private sector.

Revised investment rules will enable Railtrack to bid for capital grants for those investment schemes that help to reduce road congestion and improve rail journey times. If, for example, Railtrack could show that the proposed £500 million scheme to modernise the west coast mainline between London and Glasgow could generate £100 million worth of reduced congestion on the M1, it would be able to bid for a £100 million capital grant, Mr Freeman said. The remaining £400 million would be borrowed from the Treasury and repaid in charges levied on private sector operators.

The net effect of the reforms would be to strengthen the case for certain rail investment schemes, especially during the annual public expenditure negotiations, Mr Freeman said.

Stephen Joseph, director of the lobby group Transport 2000, said: "We welcome these reforms to the extent that they allow ministers to take account of the wider benefits of investment in the railways." He added that they fell far short of eliminating the bias in favour of road investment.

## Schoolwear cost more in 1932

BY DAVID YOUNG

THE schoolboy creeping like a snail unwillingly to school next week will probably be carrying a Day-Glo sports bag instead of a leather satchel, will be tripping over the laces of trainers that cost the equivalent of a week's wages when his father went to school and will own a pocket calculator powerful enough to enable him to design a nuclear bomb.

A survey by Littlewoods Home Shopping, which started supplying school uniforms and equipment by mail order 60 years ago, has found that while schoolbags have changed, the real cost of school uniforms has fallen.

The average girl's gymkit cost 12s 11d (65p) in 1932, the equivalent of two days' pay, while today girls wear skirts and blouses that can be bought for just over the equivalent of two hours' pay for the average industrial worker. In 1932 girls wore Panama hats, navy bloomers, a tie and black stockings that would have cost a total of 4s 11d (25p).

The main adjustment that Littlewoods has had to make in the 1990s is a need for larger sizes. The average schoolboy is 11lb heavier than in 1932 and the average schoolgirl 9lb heavier and more than an inch taller.

## Wheelchair brings A1 to a standstill

A disabled pensioner who took a wrong turning in his motorised wheelchair caused a four-mile traffic tailback on the busy A1 western bypass at Newcastle upon Tyne.

John Pearson, 74, from Gosforth, Cumbria, was on his way home in his battery-powered buggy. As he struggled along the slow lane at his top speed of five miles an hour other drivers had to queue to pass him in the last lane.

After five miles a police patrol pulled him over. Last night he was too embarrassed to talk about Monday's drive.

## Fire kills two

Lucy Godfrey, 5, of Great Chesterford, Essex, died of burns yesterday, a day after her sister Natalie, 3, was killed by the fire at their house.

## Safe stolen

Raiders used a van to ram a bank's wall at Eton, Cleveland, attached steel hawsers to a cash dispensing machine and towed it away.

## Girl 'stable'

Wendy Walker, 10, of Dundee, was said to be stable in a Newcastle upon Tyne hospital more than 24 hours after being given a new heart.

Fifth SU  
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being given a new heart

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## Fifth successive rise in GCSE grades fuels fears over standards

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

GCSE examination results have improved for the fifth year in succession, with a majority of entries reaching the equivalent of O-level standard, according to figures announced today.

The improvement, less dramatic than last week's rise in A-level performance, has prompted education observers to question standards. Dr John Marks, a member of the School Examinations and Assessment Council, said: "We have to look very carefully to ensure standards are being maintained—otherwise qualifications will be devalued."

Although the proportion of examinations awarded the top grade increased by less than 1 per cent, the rise in A-C grades, the equivalent of O-level, was 2.3 per cent. Combined with 66,000 more entries than in 1991, the result is certain to encourage staying-on rates in schools and further education colleges.

Eric Forth, the schools minister, said: "It is good to see so many pupils taking GCSE. The reward for the work that they and their teachers have put in is reflected in today's results. We can now look forward to seeing more students than ever continuing their education beyond the age of 16."

Of more than five million entries in England and Wales, one in eight was awarded an A grade and 51.3 per cent were given one of the top three grades. The figures suggest a 29 per cent improvement since the last year of O levels, 1987.

Like the A-level results, to-

day's figures show significant drops in the number of pupils taking mathematics and the individual sciences. Even biology, which escaped the decline at A level, had 35 per cent fewer entries.

Direct comparisons are impossible, however, because of the large number of schools switching to the single science examination. A rise of almost 50 per cent in these entries suggested that more pupils were taking a science examination of some sort.

Popular subjects included business studies, with 17 per cent more entries, and modern languages, with entries up by almost 5 per cent. Those in decline included economics, which followed a drop at A level with a fall of 18 per cent, computer studies (down by 15 per cent) and home economics (down by almost 10 per cent).

John Edmondson, secretary of the Joint Council for the GCSE, said that he was pleased by the improved performance of candidates against "well-established criteria". He added: "The beneficial effects of GCSE have once more been demonstrated through the good results being achieved at A level."

Teachers' unions sprung to the defence of their members, anticipating criticism of standards. Eamonn O'Kane, the deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said: "It is clear that the results are a tribute to the hard work of thousands of teachers and their pupils, and they constitute a rebuttal of the charge

that standards are falling. I hope that we will not be treated to a chorus from the right-wing so-called experts that the improvements in grades are due to slacker marking and less rigorous standards. Such criticisms are unfair and insulting."

Peter Smith, general secretary of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses' Association, said: "The bad news is that to some extent, the results reflect the lack of confidence in employment prospects in manufacturing and high-tech industries. The good news, ironically, is that it looks as if children may be getting a broader type of education as they seek more flexible qualifications to help them in the depressed jobs market."

The rising pass rate will swell already rising rolls in school sixth forms and colleges. Although England and Wales still lag behind many comparable countries in post-16 participation in education, there has been consistent improvement in the past decade.

Entries in the main subject areas, known as national criteria subjects, are up by more than 4 per cent, reflecting a move back from fringe topics. The results register a sharp improvement in the core subjects of the national curriculum. There was a 9 per cent increase in grade A passes in English, an 8 per cent rise in mathematics and a 7 per cent rise in science.

Ann Taylor, the Labour education spokeswoman, said the results were "good news", but many school-leavers faced uncertainty over jobs.



Leader of the pack: the Rev John Smith astride a Harley Davidson yesterday and, below, the emblem displayed on his leather jacket

## Biking vicar rides in to spread the gospel

THE Rev John Smith is no ordinary vicar. In Australia he is a celebrity, riding his Harley Davidson at the head of the God's Squad of converted "outlaw bikers", and counting churchmen, politicians and academics among his admirers (see page 10).

His customary garb is black leather, but his conversation is studied and erudite. "My role is to explode myths, such as that of the unthinking biker, to challenge false orthodoxies and make society remember the values it has

forgotten," he says. This week he is in Britain and tomorrow he addresses more than 25,000 young people expected to gather for the annual Greenbelt festival in Northamptonshire.

His message is likely to be controversial. The church, he says, missed the point of Martin Scorsese's film *The Last Temptation of Christ*. "It was an honest attempt, using the gospels, to redefine the link between the sensual and the spiritual reality. And it did what the church needs to do: it attempted to

portray a human Christ, one who struggles in a human way with temptation and with doubt."

For the past 20 years, Mr Smith, 50, has been running a ministry in inner-city Melbourne, which has focused on what he calls the fragmented sub-cultures of bikers, young offenders and drug addicts. His message is now beginning to reach Britain. Earlier this week he met members of the UK Christian Motorcyclists' Association, who said they were inspired by his work.



## Children do maths in the cradle

BABIES can add and subtract at the age of five months. This facility could be innate and Karen Wynn, the American doctor who discovered it, believes it may "provide the foundations for the development of further arithmetical knowledge" (see page 10).

The findings of Dr Wynn at the University of Arizona, published in today's *Nature*, answer a long-running debate on whether young children discriminate between small numbers of items by consciously counting or by purely perceptual, non-numerical means.

The experiments were based on the knowledge that infants look longer at unexpected events than expected ones. A hand putting either one or two objects on a display area was shown to 32 babies with a mean age of five months and a day. Then a screen was raised and they were shown a hand either adding one object to the one behind the screen (1+1), or taking one away (2-1).

When the screen was lowered the babies could see that in half the cases the number of objects was as it should have been, but in the other half it was not. The babies looked at the incorrect displays for significantly longer than at the correct versions, proving that they understand that addition or subtraction changes a number of items.

## Hopes rise of cure for baby anaemia

By ALISON ROBERTS

DOCTORS may be able to cure the severe anaemia suffered by premature babies and prevent the need for life-threatening blood transfusions, a blood specialists' conference has been told.

A clinical trial at St Thomas's Hospital in London showed that injecting pre-term babies with the natural hormone erythropoietin (Epo) stimulates red blood cell production in bone marrow and prevents the anaemia that affects almost all premature infants. About 5 per cent of all babies are born before the thirty-seventh week of pregnancy and classified as premature. At the moment they are

given blood transfusions that may be infected with viruses that are harmless to adults, but can be fatal in premature babies who have no resistance to disease.

Anthony Emmerson, a neonatologist at St Thomas's, said: "With transfusions there is an increased chance of getting overwhelming problems from infection, particularly with cytomegalovirus, which is a common feature of Aids." CMV causes liver enlargement, jaundice and blood disorders in premature infants and is often fatal.

Dr Emmerson's trial showed that only 48 per cent of the premature babies who

were given Epo required blood transfusions, against almost 90 per cent of those who were given a placebo. He said: "This has the potential to help the majority of pre-term babies."

Anaemic babies suffer from heart and breathing disorders and the more premature the baby, the worse the problem tends to be. Since Brett Greenwood, the baby born 17 weeks prematurely, left Leeds General Infirmary this week, other parents have spoken about their pre-term babies. Michael Cloughton's son Thomas was also born 17 weeks too early in Ashford, Kent, and weighed 21 oz. He is now a healthy two-

year-old. Although Caitlin MacLaren was born only 12 weeks prematurely, she also weighed 21 oz. Dr Neil Martin, one of the doctors who looked after her in the neonatal ward of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital in Canterbury, said that he regularly saw premature babies of only 28 weeks gestation.

"There is an 80 to 90 per cent chance that these babies will survive. Survivors at 23 and 24 weeks are rare," he said. There was a desperate shortage of neo-natal intensive care cots throughout the country. His hospital has raised £620,000 to upgrade its neo-natal ward.

Subject	Number of Candidates	Provisional Results	Percentage of Candidates obtaining grade	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Muscle	32712	20.9	21.9	22.4	14.0	10.2	7.2	3.8		
Religious Studies	32058	17.9	21.9	22.4	14.1	10.5	7.9	4.5		
Religious Studies	32058	14.2	18.0	20.7	13.1	12.9	10.0	8.5		
Biology	10533	15.3	17.9	21.2	15.5	12.5	10.1	7.5		
Chemistry	14004	15.3	15.9	21.4	17.5	13.9	10.3	6.8		
Physics	12224	18.9	20.4	25.4	14.5	9.3	5.2	2.7		
Science	12224	21.5	21.5	21.5	15.7	11.9	6.3	3.9		
English	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Mathematics	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
French	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
German	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Spanish	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
History	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Geography	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Art & Design	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Business Studies	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Latin	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Greek	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Classical Civilisation	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Computer Studies	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
CIT	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		
Economics	13225	15.9	16.4	23.1	18.5	11.5	7.9	3.7		

## Furrow of poverty traps dale farmers

COVERDALE is a remote and wildy beautiful part of the Yorkshire Dales, visited each summer by scores of tourists seeking the storybook village of James Herriot. It is also renowned for a cheese as highly regarded by cognoscenti as its more famous Wensleydale cousin.

But when the visitors have gone, a community remains—and like so many in the region it is hanging on by its fingertips, fighting the recession.

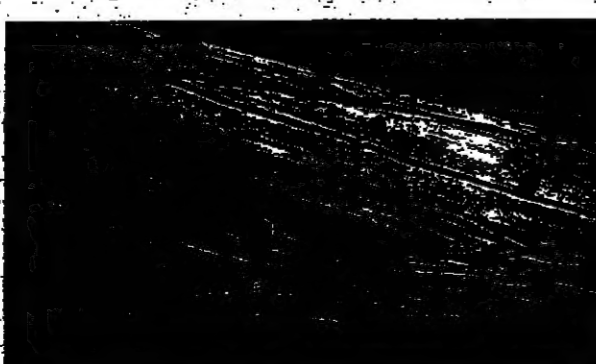
Yesterday, North Yorkshire County Council launched its bid for up to £10 million in European grants to ensure that the people of the dales and the neighbouring moors can continue to work and live without fear for the future.

The money is needed to save a local economy under threat from the world recession and social change that could drive people off the land. The county's submission to Brussels has taken 18 months to research and has uncovered a story of deprivation and despair.

Researchers found an above-average suicide rate among the farmers whose cows and Swaledale sheep browse the tough upland pastures. They also found an average wage of just £100 a week.

The desire of city-dwellers for weekend homes has forced the prices of pretty

Battered by the recession, a deprived community is pinning its hopes on EC grants, writes Paul Wilkinson



Upland struggle: life on the dales is growing harder

stone cottages well above the reach of local people. Young people have been driven off the land by poor wages, few jobs and fewer facilities.

Now there is a decline in the number of those who keep the tourist honey-pot going. The research even uncovered a trade in traditional dry-stone walls and stone barns, sold for cash to enhance picture-postcard developments elsewhere.

Geoff Lambert has not yet ploughed those depths, but his family's experiences are typical. He has farmed around the tiny Coverdale hamlet of Bradley for almost a quarter of a century, first as

a tenant, latterly as owner of 1,300 acres of rough uplands.

At 53 he has no plans to forsake the hills, but his oldest son, toyed with the idea when he could not find a house for his bride, and another son has to live in a council house 22 miles away in Richmond because he cannot afford a home in the dale although he works there. Mr Lambert's youngest son is moving away to study electronic engineering.

"Now my eldest boy has married I have to pay him a proper wage, but before that he accepted meagre money because he knew it was a way of keeping the farm run-

ning," Mr Lambert said. "I wanted to build them a house, but the national park wouldn't let us. I finally had to convert a barn. Houses in the village are going for astronomical prices. One sold in six weeks recently with an asking price of £174,000. There's no way a young man can buy something like that."

"When I started off I was doing as well as anybody else, but now I reckon we are all on a below-average wage." Prices for his lambs have halved in the past year with the ending of guaranteed minimum subsidies and he calculates his gross income has dropped 40 per cent in less than two years.

North Yorkshire's effort to change the area's economic climate comes in the form of a bid for what Brussels bureaucrats call Objective 5b status.

In the UK at present only the Highlands and Islands and parts of Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland, sections of rural Wales and parts of Cornwall and Devon have achieved such status.

Objective 5b status would unlock the European Structural Fund intended to help diversify agricultural economies where there is low socio-economic development and low income from the land. Cash is also available to support new tourism and business ventures.

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Arafat attacks Israel and US

## Rabin 'using Likud policy of oppression'

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East peace talks in Washington appeared destined for their first big hurdle yesterday after Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, launched a fierce attack against Israel and America.

Although this week's talks between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators appeared to have opened on a positive note, Mr Arafat suggested yesterday, in a speech before the United Nations in Geneva, that Israel's offer to allow Palestinians to hold elections for an administrative council in the occupied territories fell far short of his minimum demands. Although Mr Arafat and his Tunis-based organisation are excluded

from the current peace talks, it is widely acknowledged that the Palestinian delegation at the negotiating table takes all its instructions from the veteran guerrilla leader.

Mr Arafat began his address by launching a broadside against Washington for its policies in favour of Israel and went on to accuse the new left-wing Israeli government, led by Yitzhak Rabin, of practising the same policies of "oppression, repression and terrorism" as his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, of Likud.

"We consider there to be a flagrant bias in favour of the Israeli position and a cause or a reason to abort the peace process," Mr Arafat said, referring to President Bush's decision earlier this month to grant Israel \$10 billion (\$5 billion) in loan guarantees, even though the new Israeli government did not completely halt the construction of Jewish settlement housing in the occupied territories.

Although Mr Arafat conceded that the Israeli election results in June did represent a defeat for the policy of "war and procrastination" of the former Likud government, he nevertheless gave a warning against trusting Mr Rabin. "We have seen how Mr Rabin's statements since he took office contradict his actions on the ground. He gives the world sugar-coated words and pursues an iron-fisted policy on the ground," he said.

Possibly his most important declaration was the outright rejection of Israel's offer on Tuesday in Washington to allow the 1.8 million Palestinians in the occupied territories to hold elections next year for an administrative council, which would take over the running of "15 spheres of authority" from the Israeli military administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Although not all the details of the plan were revealed, the Israelis proposed that polling for the new authority could take place as early as next spring, when Israel would begin the transfer of authority of some sectors of government, such as agriculture and education, to the Palestinians. However, the Palestinians are insisting that they want to elect a far larger and more powerful legislative assembly, which could become the basis of a parliament for a future Palestinian state.

The whole world realises that there can be no peace or stability on the corpses of the Palestinian people," Mr Arafat said. He insisted that Palestinians wanted total self-determination and not "administrative elections as it [Israel] has proposed, under the guns and cannons of its tanks".



Common cause: Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, hugs Oliver Tambo, former president of the African National Congress, at a UN conference in Geneva on the Palestinians' future

## Bomb kills nine at Algiers airport

FROM REUTER IN ALGIERS

A POWERFUL bomb ripped through a crowded Algiers airport terminal yesterday, killing nine people, wounding more than 100 and devastating the building. It was the worst attack since a wave of bombings and shootings started in February.

The official news agency APS quoted Belaid Abdesselam, the prime minister, as saying half the wounded had been able to leave hospital after treatment.

Nobody claimed responsibility for the explosion, which wrecked much of the international terminal building at Houari Boumediene airport, about 12 miles from the capital. Earlier attacks in which more than 100 security force members have been killed have been blamed on Muslim extremists.

Witnesses said the terminal was packed with people who fled as the false ceiling came crashing down, hitting dead and wounded lying on the floor. Abandoned luggage lay covered with debris from the blast. The explosion demolished offices and shattered thick, 30-ft high windows running the length of the terminal, leaving ankle-deep

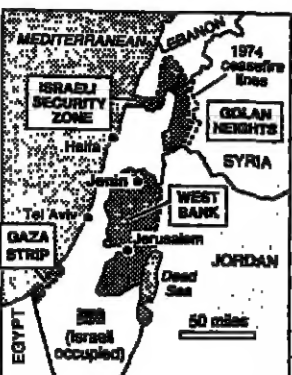
shards of glass. François Colamere, a 53-year-old French businessman working for the German firm Krauss Maffel, said: "Hundreds of people were inside. It was a powerful, professional bomb, not home-made."

Another French businessman, Armand Ajjoun, 45, who was returning to Nice from a business trip, said: "It was incredible. But everyone helped the wounded, who were just lying everywhere. It was impossible to say whether they were dead or alive."

Another bomb, said to be a crude device, exploded inside the Air France office in central Algiers about the same time, witnesses and Algiers radio said. The radio said a warning telephone call had been made three minutes before the explosion, and the building was evacuated. Nobody was hurt.

An Algiers resident said another bomb was defused in the central Place Audin. APS said the Swissair office was also evacuated after a bomb alert.

Muhammad Hardi, the interior minister, speaking on Algiers Radio, promised "draconian measures" to prevent further attacks.



## Four die in West Bank gun battle

BY RICHARD BEESTON

JENIN, the Palestinian market town, yesterday reverberated to the sound of automatic gunfire as Palestinian guerrillas and Israeli security forces fought a seven-hour battle that left two Palestinians, an Israeli police officer and an Arab housewife dead. Two infants and a second woman were seriously injured.

The incident, one of the bloodiest gun battles in the occupied West Bank, occurred in the early hours of the morning when an Israeli undercover unit of the paramilitary border police stormed a house in the eastern part of the town. As the leader of the unit, Captain Eliyahu Avraham, entered the building he was killed by automatic rifle fire, forcing his fellow officers to retreat.

After a seven-hour siege, marked by sporadic exchanges of fire, an Israeli police anti-terrorist unit overran the building and killed two Palestinians, both members of the Black Panther group loyal to the mainstream Fatah wing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The whole world realises that there can be no peace or stability on the corpses of the Palestinian people," Mr Arafat said. He insisted that Palestinians wanted total self-determination and not "administrative elections as it [Israel] has proposed, under the guns and cannons of its tanks".

## Shanghai wrestles with candid Pinter

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

CHINA is staging its first adults-only play with a production of Harold Pinter's *The Lover*, daringly presenting marital infidelity on stage. The play was awarded the Chinese theatre's first X-rating as it focuses on the sex life of a husband and wife, complete with a scantily clad female lead and figures glimpsed in intimate embraces behind a glass screen.

*The Lover* is being staged in Shanghai, which in the days before the Communist takeover earned a reputation, which it is fast regaining, for loose living. To a viewing public which has had nothing to watch for the past three years but films glorifying the late Chairman Mao, the production is a breakthrough. It attracted a sell-out audience on its first night, mostly university students and people from the art world.

The *Liberation Daily* newspaper reported that several members of the audience had emerged from the theatre rather perplexed. Expecting titillation, the audience was also served up the themes of betrayal, fertility and alienation, all of which is about as daring for China as sex. Written in 1963, *The Lover* tells the story of a husband and wife who pretend that

they are cheating on one another. But the wife's mystery lover turns out to be her husband in disguise.

*The Lover* was staged just once before in China, at Peking's Central Academy of Drama, but was judged so corrupting that no members of the public were allowed to watch it. After the closed-door performance, the *China Daily* commented that such plays "would be sure to spark some debate if they were ever staged in China".

Experimentation on the cultural scene in the late 1980s was brought to a shuddering halt after the army opened fire on unarmed demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in June 1989, provoking a headline backlash. But after a three-year relapse into the stifling confines of Maoist art, complete with Cultural Revolution operas, a more liberal trend is emerging.

Early this year, Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader, called for capitalist-style economic reforms. Mr Deng, 88, did not appear interested in any other sort of loosening up, but it has followed. Recently, Li Ruiquan, a reform-minded member of the politburo standing committee, stated that not all art had to have a Communist message, an outrageous remark for any loyal Maoist.

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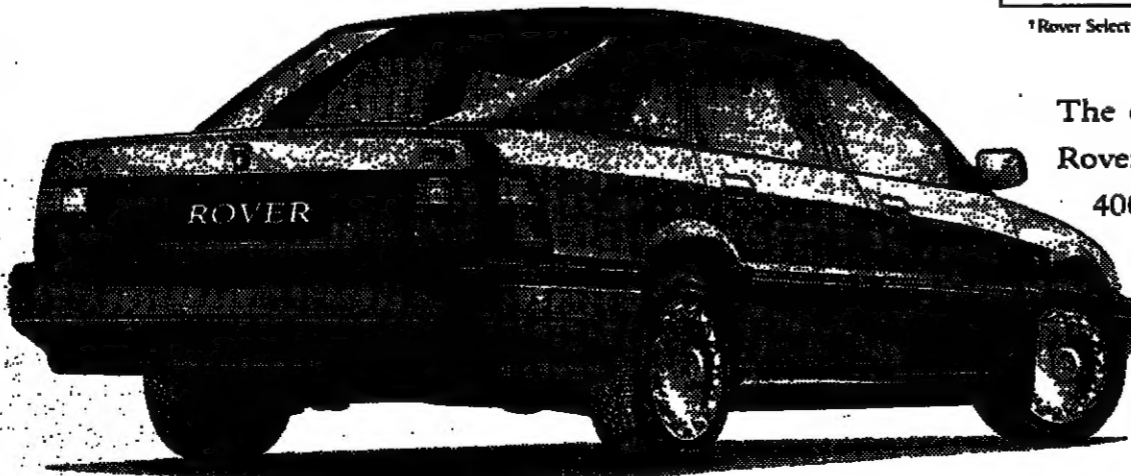
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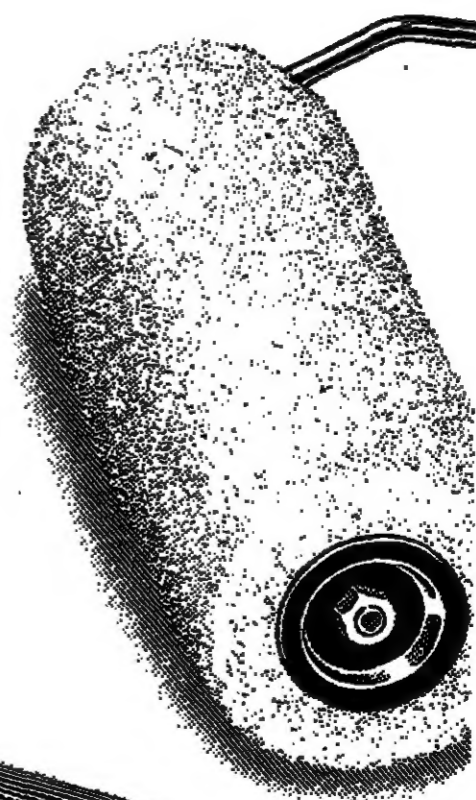
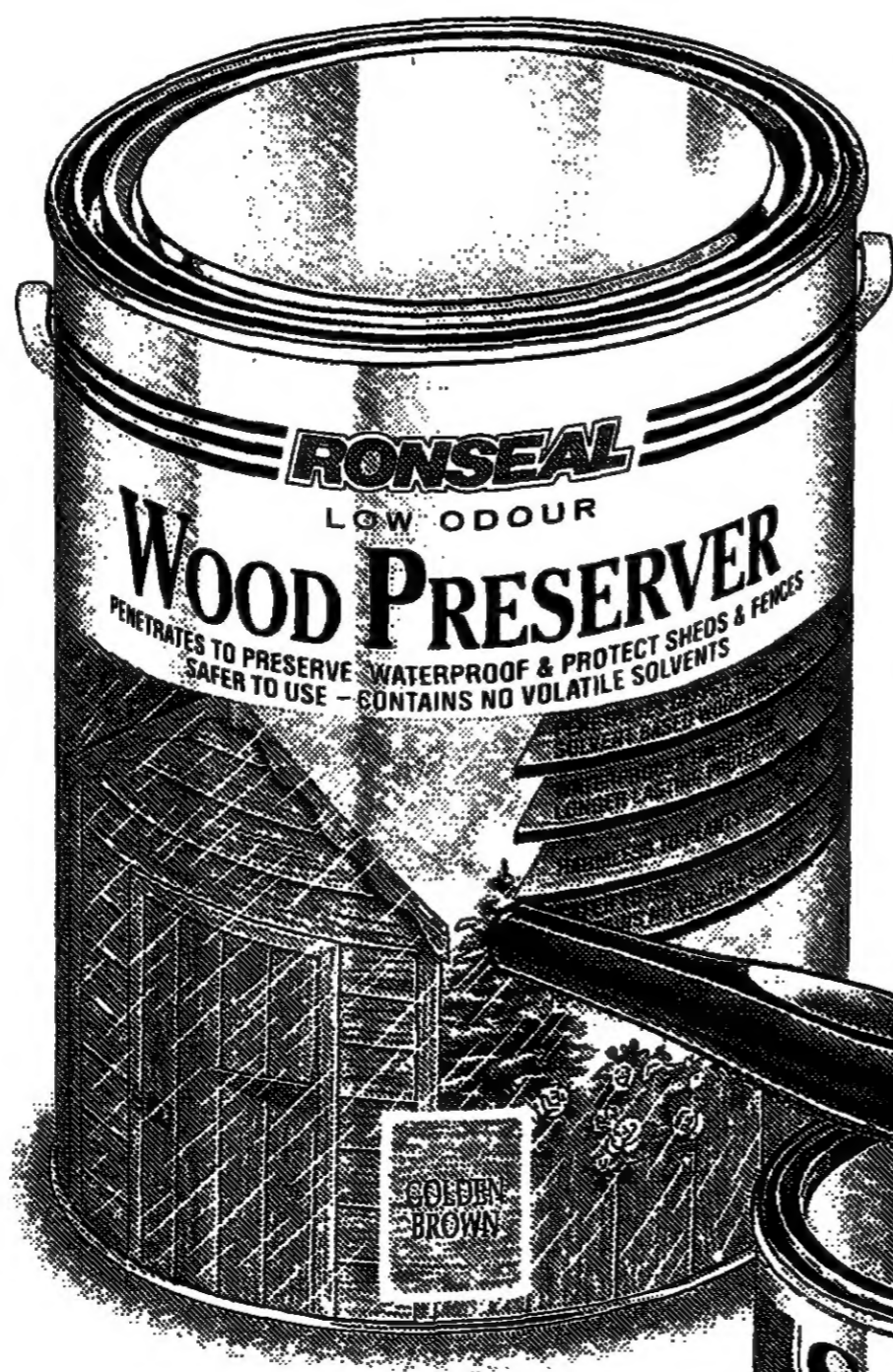
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*Why pay pots for paint?*

Belgrade faces tougher sanctions

# Major tells Serbia to stop grabbing land

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND TIM JUDAH

THE London Conference opened yesterday with a strong warning to Serbia that it faced international isolation and much tougher sanctions unless it agreed to renounce all acquisition of land by force, stop the fighting in Bosnia and halt the expulsion of Bosnian Muslims.

World leaders also insisted that they would never accept the forcible division of Bosnia or the carving up of an internationally recognised country. They called on the leaders in Belgrade immediately to fulfil their promises to uphold internationally agreed principles.

Opening the conference, John Major told representatives of at least 40 countries, organisations and the former Yugoslav republics that world opinion would not forgive anyone who impeded efforts to try to stop the war. He said: "The people whom we represent have been appalled by the destruction, the killing, the maiming, the sheer cruelty which has disfigured Yugoslavia."

Mr Major said that the conference had four main tasks. The first was to help the hundreds of thousands of refugees as winter approached. "This is not a natural disaster, it is a man-made disaster. It needs a man-made solution." Help could not be given by force, but it must be done in safety.

## LONDON CONFERENCE

Second, the conference must ensure respect for human rights. "At present that is not happening. Civilians are detained against their will and subjected to ill treatment, especially in Bosnia. Those detention camps must be shut. But while they exist, humanitarian agencies should have immediate, unimpeded and constant access to them."

The third task was to mobilise international pressure behind the fundamental principles of a settlement. Frontiers could not be altered by force. "The international community will not accept that Bosnia can be partitioned by conquest." Minorities were also entitled to full protection.

Mr Major said the fourth task was to increase pressure on governments or factions that did not abide by these principles. Serbia and Montenegro had to ask themselves whether they wanted to be considered part of Europe and the world community. If so, they would be helped. If not, "the pressure will inexorably increase: condemnation, isolation... no trade, no aid, no international recognition or role, economic, cultural, political and diplomatic isolation."

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general and co-chairman of the

conference, agreed that frontiers could not be changed by force, only through legal and peaceful channels. He gave a warning, however, that the UN was now being asked to take on a role far beyond its mandate in former Yugoslavia. "The expectations of the international community... continues to exceed the resources and capacity of the United Nations Protection Force. I wish to insist that the UN mission, with its present mandate, cannot by itself bring this crisis to an end or a durable political solution."

He complained that the European Community was not sticking to the agreed division of labour. He said Europe had vast moral, economic and military resources. It should co-operate fully with the UN Security Council.

He gave a warning that if all new states broke down according to ethnic, religious or linguistic groups, there would be no limit to fragmentation. Systematic killing of minorities could not be tolerated. He said declarations alone would not bring international peace.

Speaking for the EC presidency, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said suffering in former Yugoslavia was not an act of God, but the result of blatant aggression. He blamed especially the Serbian leadership.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, went further and spoke about Belgrade as the "main source of evil." The Serbs were engaged in a ruthless war to create an ethnically cleansed greater Serbia. What is happening here is genocide and this we condemn before the world community. The community of nations will pursue all crimes no matter who has committed them. Let no one believe that these atrocities will be forgotten.

The conference got off to a less than promising start when Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, walked out protesting at his observer status. He said that he had come to talk, "not sit in a side room." He said he was "the only party at the talks, we control the territories." One British official described the walkout as "pure theatre", and predicted: "He'll be back for lunch. He can talk to whoever he wants... but he's got to do it in the corridors." Mr Karadzic was duly back at lunchtime.

● **Borkum:** President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, said after a meeting on the German North Sea island of Borkum yesterday that the international community should provide winter aid for refugees in former Yugoslavia and that the EC in particular should offer help. (Reuter)

Troops promise, page 1  
Diary, page 12  
Martin Ivens, page 12  
Leading article, page 13



Tactical withdrawal: Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, walking out of the conference in London yesterday in protest at his observer status. The gesture was described by one British official as "pure theatre" and Mr Karadzic later returned to the conference

## Silajdzic presses for 'no-fly zone'

By TIM JUDAH

### BOSNIAN DIPLOMACY

IN A clear attempt to shame the West into taking tougher action on Bosnia, the republic's foreign minister is to demand that an Iraq-style "no-fly zone" be enforced over his country. Haris Silajdzic said the request would be made to the American government but he lamented that "whatever the Americans try to do the English and French are in the way."

Since the Bosnian war began, Mr Silajdzic has toured the globe drumming up support for his beleaguered country. Mr Silajdzic predicted that, unless the "aggressors" were driven out soon, the Bosnian war would be a drawn-out conflict.

Bosnian Serbs are using warplanes left behind when the Yugoslav armed forces pulled out of the republic. They are based in the northern city of Banja Luka, where they are protected by missile batteries. Bosnia has frequently claimed that jets flying from bases in Serbia are also used, an allegation vigorously denied in Belgrade.

Mr Silajdzic said that after all that had happened in Bosnia, the UN and the European Community were "still talking about steering committees", a reference to the six working groups planned to follow the two days of talks at the conference. "I couldn't believe it when I heard [Boutros] Boutros Ghali [the UN secretary-general] talking about them... it was as though he'd made some sort of discovery."

Mr Silajdzic said the key

## Adie takes over Bell coverage

By MELINDA WITSTOCK  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

KATE Adie, the BBC's chief news correspondent, was sent to Bosnia yesterday to replace Martin Bell, the veteran war correspondent wounded in a Sarajevo mortar attack on Tuesday.

Bell, 53, yesterday underwent further surgery at the private Princess Grace Hospital in London after X-rays located another small fragment of shrapnel in his body. He was reported to be in good spirits.

Adie, a veteran of numerous foreign conflicts, was in Sarajevo last night. She is joined by a new crew - cameraman John Daley and sound recordist Paul Francis. The BBC said yesterday it had thought "long and hard" about sending in a replacement for Bell.



Adie: backed up by a new BBC crew

## Jewel of the capital destroyed by fire

FROM KURT SCHORK IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO'S much-loved old town hall, a graceful Moorish building used as the Bosnian national library, was blazing out of control yesterday after the capital came under bombardment overnight. Firefighters struggling with low water pressure managed to extinguish the flames several times during the night but the building, in the heart of the city, kept coming under renewed attack.

"I loved this building very much... Sarajevo will not be the same without the library," said one onlooker. "Even on fire the building is very beautiful."

By mid-morning the north and central sections of the ornate four-storey building were engulfed by flames. Windows were exploding out into the narrow streets and the building's stone north wall was cracking and collapsing under the heat. A human conveyor belt of volunteers trying to save as many historical documents and books as possible stretched from inside the burning building to lorries queued outside.

The slender Moorish columns of the library's main reading room exploded from the intense heat and portions of the room came crashing through the ceiling. Five firemen, protected only by yellow hard hats, narrowly escaped death when a staircase collapsed beneath their feet under the weight of falling debris. They tumbled down the stairwell but were apparently unhurt.

The old town hall, built

during the days of the Austro-Hungarian empire and opened in 1896, was a source of civic pride. Its mix of imposing masonry and architectural frivolity captured the city's pre-war personality. The destruction of the building, likely to have a heavy psychological impact on the city residents, who have been living under siege by Serbian forces for several months.

The fire started shortly after 10pm on Tuesday and kept burning and growing. Efforts to extinguish the flames were hampered by low water pressure. The main water pump system has been damaged for months of heavy urban warfare. "We have been fighting this fire all night, but we do have much water pressure," said fire commander Keni Slinic. "There have been many falling here for hours. It makes the job very difficult."

A German military transport plane was hit by gunfire while taking off from Sarajevo airport on Tuesday. It reached Zagreb without problems. A German defence spokesman said: "The crew of the turboprop aircraft did not notice they were being fired while leaving the capital, but a bullet hole was found in the plane after it landed in a Croatian capital, he said. It was the first time a German military transport plane has been shot at since Bonn joined the anti-air to the city six weeks ago, he said. (Reuter)

## LONDON CONFERENCE: THE PARTICIPANTS



Slobodan Milosevic, Serbia; Milan Panic, Serbia; Dobrica Cosic, Serbia; Momir Bulatic, Montenegro

### CHAIRMAN



John Major, Britain; Boutros Boutros Ghali, UN



Franjo Tudjman, Croatia; Milan Kucan, Slovenia; Kiro Gligorov, Macedonia; Alija Izetbegovic, Bosnia-Herzegovina

● **Yugoslav delegations with observer status:** Bosnian Serbs (Radovan Karadzic), Bosnian Croats, Kosovo Albanians, Vojvodina Hungarians

● **Other delegations:** Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Denmark, EC (Jacques Delors), France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Organization of Islamic Conference, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, International Red Cross (IRC)

## Andrew baffles then batters Louisiana

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

IN ITS pursuit of the dubious distinction of being the costliest natural disaster in American history, Hurricane Andrew ripped into the southern state of Louisiana early yesterday, bringing more howling winds and driving rain.

Andrew came in from the Gulf of Mexico under the cover of darkness, just as it had done in Florida on Sunday. And again, it kept forecasters guessing until the last moment. Instead of hitting New Orleans, Andrew veered off to the west and struck unsuspecting areas in the marshlands of Cajun country.

As Andrew approached the coast, forecasters tried to keep track of the hurricane eye as it

constantly changed direction. Interviewed piloting a storm tracker aircraft above Andrew, Lieutenant Colonel Gale Carter said: "It's like riding a roller-coaster blindfolded."

As a precaution before the hurricane struck, more than two million people were advised to leave their homes in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Many residents of New Orleans, fearing flooding in their city which lies eight feet below sea-level on the banks of the Mississippi river, had abandoned their homes to drive to what they thought would be safer areas to the west. When forecasters realised that Andrew was changing course again, people



turned around and headed back east.

President Bush yesterday cleared his schedule again to visit the new disaster zone. "The destruction of this storm goes beyond anything we have known in recent years," he said. He announced the setting up of a task force to co-ordinate relief. He said \$10

million (£5.2 million) had been set aside to create 5,000 clean-up jobs for Florida residents unemployed as a result of Andrew. This disaster threatens to overwhelm the resources of all public and private resources," he said.

Worst hit in Louisiana was Morgan City with 12,000 residents. Witnesses described how sheets of metal sailed down the streets at the height of the hurricane like razor blades. Homes were damaged by falling trees but most buildings survived intact.

Andrew's journey from Africa has finally taken a toll of its strength. Winds began to die down yesterday to 115 mph, compared with the 160 mph gusts that hit south Florida. But Andrew made up for what it lacked in power with heavy rain and officials were concerned over the new risk of flash floods. South Louisiana is a low-lying marshland.

Andrew also spawned a series of tornadoes, one of which injured between 25 and 30 people and destroyed 40 to 50 homes.

Clean-up work continued in Miami, where 50,000 people remain homeless. Police say at least 16 people have been killed and thousands injured, and damage in south Florida is estimated to be as high as \$20 billion. Nearly one million people in south Florida remain without electricity.

In Miami Beach, residents who have no running water or electricity bathed in the ocean. Some carried buckets of sea water home to flush toilets.

High wind, page 12  
Insurance cost, page 17

## Brazilian president loses first battle against impeachment

By MAC MARGOLIS IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Collor de Mello of Brazil lost the first battle in his fight to stay in power yesterday when a congressional panel voted in the Senate, Brasilia, to uphold a report condemning him for condoning corruption in government.

Protesters from a number of cities, their faces smudged in black paint, shouting for impeachment, flocked to the house of Congress to hold a vigil as the panel of legislators announced its decision to endorse the investigation into what has been called Brazil's worst corruption scandal.

During a tense session, those loyal to the president took the microphone to denounce the "investigative fury" that linked Senator Collor to the scandal. But a number of government allies broke ranks with the president and voted in favour of the report, clearing the way for a petition of impeachment that citizens' groups are expected to present to Congress soon.

The report, released on Monday, concluded that Senator Collor not only knew of, but received illicit gifts and money from a "squad" of influence peddlers and favour-seekers, led by his former campaign manager, Senator Paulo Cesar Farias. The decision of the congressional panel bodes ill for Senator Collor, who must rally at least a third of Congress, or 168 of 503 legislators in the lower house, to block impeachment. If he

fails, Senator Collor will be suspended from office for up to 180 days and face an impeachment trial in the Senate. It is possible that he will also face criminal charges.

Yesterday, outside the halls of congress, another wave of protests grew, fuelling the drive for impeachment. For the fourth successive day, demonstrators took to the streets in dozens of cities to demand an end to the Collor government.

On the eve of the vote, singer gave way to festivity as some 30,000 protesters paraded to samba tunes through central Rio, while those sympathetic to the president covered the streets with shredded paper thrown down from the windows of office buildings. Elementary school students in training shoes and backpacks mingled with businessmen with briefcases. A military policeman smiled as a fellow officer pasted a "Down with Collor" sticker on his forehead.

"What makes us a third world country is not economic underdevelopment, but moral decadence," Senator Paulo Melo, a congressman for Rio state shouted over the din of the crowd. "But people are sick and tired of stealing and corruption."

At the same time, newspaper reports allege that President Collor has consulted numerous clairvoyants in the hope of finding a way of remaining in office. Thomas Gordon, a parapsychologist, is apparently the most recent of a

number of experts on the supernatural said to be advising the beleaguered head of state. At the end of a four-hour session, Senator Gordon, well known among Brazilian starlets, is alleged to have urged the president to "mediate every day between 6pm and 6.30 pm", local press reports said.

Candles the colour of the green and yellow Brazilian flag apparently burn around the clock in the gardens and around the windows of the master bedroom at the president's private residence. Those candles burned the night before the second round of the November 1989 presidential elections, which Senator Collor won with 35 million votes against 31 million for his rival.

Vera Lucia Moreira Alves, alleged to be Senator Collor's favourite medium, said in a televised interview that the president would leave office only 40 days before the end of his elected term, due on January 1, 1995. The interviewer, baffled, asked whether the congressional panel would have any impact. "None," the medium replied, unruffled.

Senator Collor, a practicing Roman Catholic, has attended church less frequently this year, but his designated priest, Father Joao Luiz Manente, says the president's faith is "undeniable" and dismisses his reported meetings with sorcerers and gurus as inventions of the press.

## Lebanese ministers resign

Beirut: Paris Boutel, the Lebanese foreign minister, and George Sadeh, leader of the Christian Phalange party and telecommunications minister, resigned yesterday in protest at the government's decision to go ahead with elections (A. Jaber writes).

## Security sought

Moscow: Russia appealed all factions in Afghanistan guarantee the safety of plans to evacuate foreigners from Kabul, where 1,000 people have been killed in two weeks including two Russian embassy employees. (Reuter)

## Arrests upheld

Delhi: India's Supreme Court has upheld the detention of two Britons, David Ward, 2, and Steve Hillman, 22, who were arrested in Nagaland on subversion charges. The men belong to the Naga Vig group. (Reuter)

## Rights backed

Bangkok: Burma's military junta, accused by human rights groups of brutality against minorities, has signed the Geneva Convention to the surprise of representatives of the Karen minority. (Reuter)

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# Mitterrand's game of divide-and-rule comes unstuck

THE road from Maastricht has been strewn with unpleasant surprises for Europe's statesmen who cling to the postwar recipes for uniting the continent. To see the Danes reject the treaty was a severe blow for the architects of political and monetary union. Worse may be to come. France, the self-appointed spiritual leader of the European Community, might turn the treaty down.

**France's vote to ratify the Maastricht treaty, once seen as a near-certain 'yes', could go the other way, writes George Brock from Paris**

that Paris cannot be sure of ratification. But President Mitterrand and his ministers now find themselves in a hard fight with opponents whom they were dismissing as eccentric backwoodsmen before the annual holiday exodus. The rainbow coalition recommending a "no" vote, which ranges from the battered Communist party to Jean-Marie Le Pen's extreme-right National Front, has won the initiative and momentum by realising that undecided voters mistrust the political establishment.

Just as in Denmark, voters suspect that politicians are not levelling with them. The French are unhappy. Jean d'Ormesson, the grand old man of conservative pundits, wrote yesterday: "They don't like their government, politics disappoint them, they are revolted by endless scandals, the economy is in a mess, the future worries them."

Mitterrand called the referendum to split the centre-right opponents in the hope of restoring the Socialist's fortunes before the general election next spring. The strategy has blown up in his face. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former president, who is for the treaty, said when asked whether Mitterrand was wise to agree to a televised debate next week that the president was so unpopular that his every intervention would boost the "no" vote. Mitterrand's ministers are defending a treaty packed with compromises which truly satisfied no leader at Maastricht. France claimed two negotiating triumphs. The treaty lays down a binding timetable for a single currency in Europe, offering the prospect that the franc's subservience to the mark might be ended. But pro-treaty ministers now say that if the text had to be renegotiated, Germany might well refuse to schedule the abolition of the mark. With the European exchange rate mechanism close to breaking and Germans' resistance to losing their stable currency increasing, French people suspect that even if ratified, treaty commitments could be evaded.



Le Canard Enchaîné asks if Mitterrand is very or pretty much alive, a little dead or completely stiff

polls showed that almost half the electorate does not believe that Maastricht would make much difference to the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Added to that, the government is in disarray over the use of force in Bosnia. Its chosen combination of tough talk and cautious military deployment is under relentless attack for its timidity. The "yes" campaign suffers from a deeper problem shared by all governments trying to ratify the treaty: no one can agree on its main justification. The Socialist party emphasised the Community's contribution to post-war peace with a poster featuring a caricature of Hitler obliterated by a large

less attack for its timidity. The "yes" campaign suffers from a deeper problem shared by all governments trying to ratify the treaty: no one can agree on its main justification. The Socialist party emphasised the Community's contribution to post-war peace with a poster featuring a caricature of Hitler obliterated by a large

X. At the same time it wants to capitalise on anti-Americanism. "Give Europe weight" says another poster featuring a domineering Uncle Sam and a Japanese sumo wrestler. Mitterrand's nemesis is Philippe Seguin, a Gaullist former minister. Dismissed as a dinosaur in the early weeks of the campaign, he is now the man due to debate the treaty with Mitterrand on television. He plugs a simple set of themes: no treaty can enforce the co-ordination of states determined to act individually; the power of the Brussels technocracy will be boosted, and there should be a second shot at writing a better treaty. Some Socialists are painting him as an ambitious schemer trying to displace Jacques Chirac as leader of the Rassemblement pour la République (RPR), but M Seguin's concentration on the issues make the charge unlikely to stick. The "yes" campaign's slide

in the polls does not mean that the treaty will be defeated. The French state can call on great reserves of deference and loyalty when a president needs them. Ministers and treaty supporters ranging from Yves St Laurent to Plácido Domingo have more than three weeks to win over voters with the spectre of collapse and disillusion in the EC if they kill off the treaty. Jacques Delors, the European Commission president has said little from his holiday retreat in the Auvergne but offered Mitterrand a clue to what may be the president's line of counter-attack. A "no" vote, he said, would be a "massive loss of credibility for France". But M Delors would be bound to argue like that. If France says "no", then the treaty will be dead. And M Delors' chances of becoming the next president of France will not look very healthy either.

Diary, page 12

## Germans take stock as city clears debris of racist riots

FROM IAN MURRAY IN ROSTOCK

COUNCIL workers began clearing up the mess yesterday caused by four nights of racist rioting in Rostock. Residents seemed shamed as they stood in little knots outside the 11-storey block where Romanian refugees had lived, staring almost unbelieving at the smashed windows and the smoke stains around them. Ask Manfred Hamum if he is a Nazi and he becomes visibly angry. "My father was killed by the Nazis because he was a communist," he says. "I hate them." But ask him if he wants a hostel for foreigners on his "nice, clean" housing estate and he grows just as annoyed. "They are filthy," he spits. "They ruin the quality of our life."

This is the apparent contradiction which the far right in Germany contrived to exploit on the Lichtenhagen estate here and which led to violence and the real fear in Bonn that neo-Nazi ideas were gaining ground in east Germany. Sixty-five policemen were injured and 58 people were arrested in the east German port on Tuesday night as up to 700 rioters battled with more than 1,000 policemen using tear gas and water cannon. The abandoned hostel remained the focal point even though the Romanian gypsies and Vietnamese families had left. More than 250 people have been arrested since the hostel was first attacked. Most have been freed pending possible charges but prosecutors

said that 12 would remain in custody and would be charged with assault. It was not so much the chants of "Ausländer raus" from a relatively small number of young men that worried the pensioners and the applause from neighbours as the neo-Nazis put the boot in. The police, trying to make arrests, were hampered by the way in which the crowd protected the men who dived into the bystanders and seemed to disappear. If the local residents did not set fire to the hostel, they did little or nothing to stop it happening, and were duly grateful that the violence forced the "filthy gypsies" to leave. Mostly, however, they blamed the police. "They should never have left the place unguarded. Then they could never have got in to start the fire," said Rita Schulz. "We wanted the gypsies to go, but not this way." Everyone blamed Bonn. "Those politicians simply don't know what they are talking about when they say Germany must be a land of asylum," said Markus Lippmann, one of the 17 per cent unemployed in Rostock. "They go home to a nice comfortable house while we have to try to survive on the dole and put up with the filth of the people they send here." The feeling runs deep but in sending so many Romanian gypsies to Rostock the West



Burning passions: a youth prepares to throw a stone in Rostock where 65 policemen were injured in a fourth night of rioting

(west Germans) were once more showing their disdain for the Ostis (east Germans). Asylum-seekers are shared between the different German states by quota and the people of Rostock believe that they have been sent a disproportionate number of gypsies because their unhygienic lifestyle would offend people in the west. Up to 70 were arriving daily at the hostel which had only 320 places. The result was that newcomers camped outside, turning the neat lawns into a

filthy campsite covered in rubbish and faeces. The neo-Nazis exploited the simmering discontent. The tactic was simple. They started a demonstration with a handful of supporters who gained publicity and thus attracted rowdies from all over Germany. German intelligence said in its annual report last month that neo-Nazi organisations were growing and events in Rostock have proved this to be true. The ringleaders were seen using two-way radios to pass messages about police

movements. Even in setting fire to cars, the men seemed to have been careful. Only old Trabants were set alight while the new Volkswagens and Fords were left alone, suggesting that they did not want to antagonise the proud owners of new vehicles. The aim was to win popularity by getting rid of the gypsies, and in this they succeeded. Now the state's coalition government is in trouble with the liberal Free Democrats threatening to walk out. There are calls for the resignation of

Berndt Seite, the prime minister, and Lothar Kupfer, the interior minister. The police chief, Hans-Heinrich Heinsen, is complaining that his men are badly equipped and demoralised. Outside a church in the middle of the city yesterday a small group of young skin-

heads was certainly not demoralised. They were strutting about, waving at the bemused crowds like a band of conquering heroes. It is their ability to manipulate the discontent and emotions in east Germany which is the real worry for the politicians in Bonn.

### PEOPLE

## Jagger and Hall dine in Dallas

Mick Jagger and Jerry Hall, whose marriage was reported to be on the rocks, showed up together over the weekend at The Mansion, a glamorous Dallas restaurant. Jagger, 49, took a break from recording in California to visit Ms Hall, a 36-year-old model, and their three children at the couple's ranch in Lone Oak, about 60 miles northeast of Dallas. "Mick was very loving and attentive," an observer said.

Edward Lee Howard, the only CIA officer to defect to the Soviet Union, has returned to Moscow from Sweden where he went as the Soviet Union was collapsing. He is wanted in the United States on charges of selling to the Soviet KGB secrets that allegedly destroyed America's spy operation in Moscow.

The South African playwright Athol Fugard says a picture of white soldiers dumping bodies of black guerrillas into a mass grave inspired his new work, *Playland*. "The photograph seemed to sum up the horrors of our Angola border war, which for South Africa was our Vietnam."

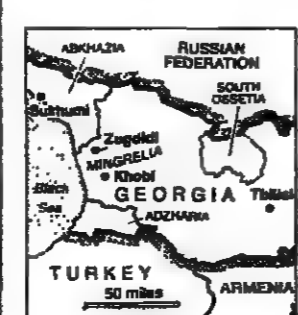
Filming of *Jurassic Park* has begun on Hawaii's Kauai Island North Shore. The film, directed by Steven Spielberg, is about genetically engineered dinosaurs on the rampage in a theme park.

## IMF rejects Russian hyperinflation fears

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

A SENIOR official of the International Monetary Fund yesterday gave an upbeat assessment of Russia's economic reforms and said he saw no evidence of the hyperinflation that Russians dread. Richard Erb, deputy director of the IMF, admitted that production figures were disappointing and structural reform was taking longer than hoped, but he expressed confidence that he found end-of-year targets would be met, clearing the way for further credits. Mr Erb's optimistic forecast, made at the end of a two-day visit to Moscow, conflicted with increasingly doom-laden assessments from many Russian and some Western analysts who say Russia's inflation is already out of control and fear imminent economic collapse. One such view came yesterday from Academician Nikolai Petrakov, a former adviser to President Gorbachev, who told a Moscow conference that the Russian economy had "entered a stage of concolated hyperinflation". He accused the government of imposing "the most barbaric and cynical form of wage freeze", by delaying payment of wages and pensions for months on end. By the end of July, he said, the state's "debt" to the people was 156.5 billion roubles (£465 million at the current exchange rate), or more than 20 per cent of state revenue. He predicted that the exchange rate of the rouble would continue to fall, reach-

ing 250 to 300 roubles to the dollar before the end of the year. The current market rate in Moscow is 168 roubles. Mr Erb's reasons for taking the opposite view were based partly on talks with leading Russian officials, including Viktor Gerashchenko, the recently appointed head of the central bank, and partly on the visible contrast he observed between the bustling private trade in Moscow now and its absence during his last visit in December. He also cited figures for July which showed that the rate of inflation had slowed to 7.5 per cent. Mr Erb, while conceding that one month's figures could hardly be considered a trend, said that they were nonetheless a hopeful sign. He said: "Certainly, there is no evidence of hyperinflation developing. Concerns that prices are in the process of exploding are misplaced." The reduction of the monthly inflation rate to single figures is one of the targets set by the IMF before it will consider granting the next instalment of credit. The first tranche, \$1 billion (£500 million), was released last month. The IMF also appears to take a more hopeful view of the rouble's strength than many Russians. Mr Erb said the fall in its value was not nearly as great as the rouble's domestic decline due to inflation. The exchange rate had held up better than might have been expected.



## Yeltsin acts to stop Georgia war

BY BRUCE CLARK

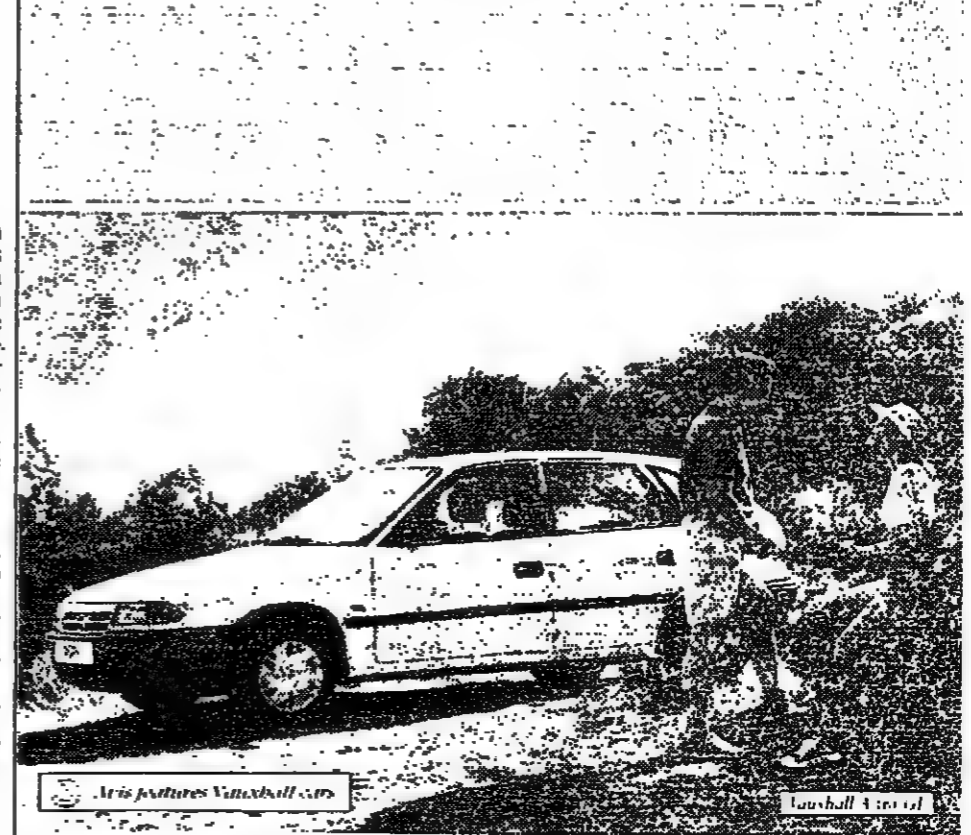
PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday promised decisive measures to help restore peace to Georgia's Black Sea coast as irregular fighters from south Russia clashed with troops dispatched to the region by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader. Each side claimed to have killed dozens of men in an encounter, near the resort of Gagra, between the Georgian army and a force of 1,500 men that included many volunteers from neighbouring regions of Russia as well as local men from the separatist Abkhazian minority. The fighters on the separatist side include Chechens and ethnic Adyghe. Mr Yeltsin pledged to do "everything possible to help find a civilised, democratic solution" to the conflict in Abkhazia based on negotiations and the withdrawal of troops from the area.

## Capri claims marble altar from Britain

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

AN ITALIAN pressure group has urged Alberto Ronchey, Italy's minister of cultural heritage, to demand the return to Capri of the priceless marble altar of Cybele from the British Museum. The request was made in a report submitted by Franco Nocella, the secretary of the Italian branch of Feder-Mediterraneo, a non-governmental agency with links to the United Nations and the European Community. The two-foot high cylindrical marble monument to Cybele, the goddess of fertility venerated by the Romans, was discovered in the 1790s by Norberto Handrawa, an Austrian archaeologist sent to Capri by Ferdinand IV. It was found in the Villa of the Sea Palace that is believed to have been built by either Emperor Augustus or Emperor Tiberius. It dates to the period 30BC to 37AD. Handrawa sold the monument to Sir William Hamilton, the Englishman active in the Neapolitan court, and it is now in the collection of the British Museum, according to reports in the newspapers *Il Giornale* and *La Repubblica*. In support of his case Signor Nocella cited a resolution, proposed by 18 countries headed by Greece, under examination by the UN aimed at obtaining the return of works of art to their countries of origin. A ministry spokesman in Rome said a decision on the request is unlikely until

Signor Ronchey returns from his summer holiday later this month. But Salvatore Borà, a Sicilian writer and historian of Capri who has lived on the island for 40 years, says there is considerable support for the proposal among the islanders. "Undoubtedly there is a movement favouring a return of the altar so that it can be enjoyed on the site where it was found," he said. He added that numerous Roman relics were sold by peasants to British troops when Capri was briefly a British protectorate between 1806 and 1808, and to French soldiers during the subsequent French invasion. "Archaeological associations also are interested in reclaiming a statue of Tiberius from the Louvre and other items held in New York," Signor Borà said. The Italian government is likely to think carefully before turning the case into an interstate controversy similar to the furore that raged over the Elgin Marbles. Italy might be obliged to return numerous Egyptian treasures held in Rome. In Urbino, the birthplace of Raphael, the authorities have received a poor response to an appeal to Rome and the EC for funds to repair a section of the city's Renaissance ramparts that collapsed in June after heavy rains. Only a fraction of the 30 billion lire (£13.6 million) needed has been disbursed so far.



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## Spare us ceasefires

The peace talks will prove  
futile, says Martin Ivens

Sarajevo was burning yesterday. Hundreds of rockets, mortar shells and anti-aircraft heavy machine-guns have been blasting the city from the encircling Serbian positions at a rate of one explosion every five seconds. Yes, another Yugoslav peace conference has been convened. There could be no more poignant backdrop to the circus going on at the Queen Elizabeth Centre in Westminster. The delegates turn up in their shiny suits to talk about peace, while the limits of diplomacy are cruelly exposed on the ground.

Lord Carrington evidently has begun to appreciate the irony of his situation. He has resigned as the chief EC mediator in Yugoslavia. Revealingly, he told reporters: "I had no idea how easy it was for almost all those concerned to agree to a ceasefire or anything you suggested, with not the smallest intention of doing anything about it". Douglas Hurd loyally says the conference will build on "the good work" of Lord Carrington. He was not so kind to his old friend two months ago when I called on him at his offices at Christie's. I told Carrington that Mr Hurd was off to the UN that day to discuss Yugoslavia. He told me this could not be the case, but that evening Hurd arrived in New York.

The acting American Secretary of State, Lawrence Eagleburger, who is also a former friend of the Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic, has yet to complete his disillusioning education. He can still express surprise that the fighting has intensified. "The Serbs obviously are intent on establishing as good a position as they can on the ground prior to the convening of the conference, and it's an outrage," he said yesterday. Perhaps he should have listened to Major Lewis Mackenzie, who served as UN commander in Sarajevo: "God protect us from ceasefires. It seems whenever we have a ceasefire the level of fighting goes up."

The official in Mr Eagleburger's State Department responsible for managing Balkan policy on a day-to-day basis, George Kenney, was not so surprised as his boss by the latest "outrage". He has just resigned in protest at what he calls an "ineffective" American response to the fighting. He told *The Washington Post* that missing from the diplomatic round were "very strong pressures, including military pressures against Serbia to stop its campaign of genocide in Bosnia". Mr Kenney has been to finishing school.

Isaiah Berlin, comparing Dostoevsky with Tolstoy, used the analogy of the fox and the hedgehog. The cunning fox knows many things, the hedgehog (Tolstoy) knows one big thing. Western diplomats know a lot about trade negotiations, the minutiae of EC agreements, Rumania's constitution and the trade imbalance with Freedonia. Warlords in Yugoslavia are less sophisticated. They have never been to Oxbridge. Harvard or the *grandes écoles*, and fail to understand the fine arts of compromise. They believe in simple things like killing their enemies and winning at all costs.

Lord Carrington once complained of the "bigotry and insularity" of Northern Ireland politicians, and described the Reverend Ian Paisley as the "bigot of all bigots". He let his sentiments be widely known, and the Unionists last year objected to his appointment as an independent chairman in all-party talks on Ulster. The Yugoslavs of every ethnic persuasion, as all our diplomats agree, are also "ruthless shits". In short they are thoroughly un-British.

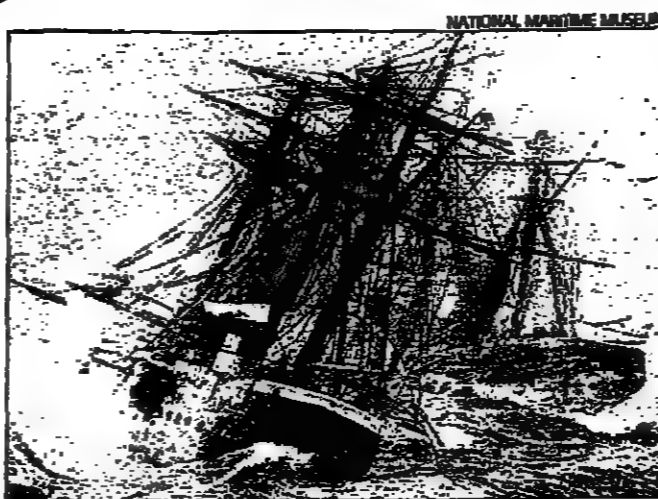
Almost four years ago the journalist Peter Millar described the ethnic hatred Slobodan Milosevic was whipping up among Serbs against the Albanians of Kosovo, and, by extension, the Croats and the Slovenes. Foreign correspondents could see what was coming. Yet last summer, James Baker and Mr Hurd were still defending the integrity of Yugoslavia.

Before that a correspondent described the effect of a gas attack by Saddam Hussein's forces on the Kurdish village of Halabja in Iraq. Later another reporter described Saddam's Nebuchadnezzar-like ambitions in the Middle East and the triumphal car of words he had built in Baghdad. At the time, "men of principle" such as Hurd and Baker were running ministries still actively helping Saddam Hussein with lucrative trade credits.

This week's meeting in London of bloody-handed warlords and smooth diplomats brings to mind the fable of the hedgehog and the fox. The ruthlessly single-minded will prevail.

Pieter van der Merwe on how the catastrophic power of hurricanes has helped shape history

## A high wind in Florida



HMS Calliope escaping during the 1889 tornado in Samoa

with an enemy". As with Andrew, local tornadoes were a by-product. At Whitstable a merchant ship was vacuumed out of the water and dropped 250 yards inland; a cow ended up in the top of a tree. The vaunted great storm of 1987 killed only three in Britain.

The word "hurricane" derives from Carib Indian language. The first English citation is from Richard Eden, in 1555, who immediately linked it to its oriental synonym, the typhoon. "These tempests of aye (which the Grecians call Typhons, that is whirlwindes) they call Furocanes," King Lear's line "Blow! You cataracts and hurricanes" uses the word in the now obsolete sense of a water-spout. "Cyclone" was coined by the meteorologist Henry Piddington in 1848, after the Greek for "the coiling of a snake".

We still lack a full explanation of hurricanes. We know they form over warm seas between 5 and 30 degrees north and south

of the Equator, tracking broadly west and north in the Atlantic and often wreaking havoc as far as New England. The beast itself is a centrifuge of winds at Beaufort Force 12 minimum, 72 mph (and often double that), with a span perhaps 500 miles

across. Warm wet air rises in the low-pressure centre, cools, falls and forms heavy cloud at the perimeter. Spinning by Coriolis force, from earth's rotation, in the same way and direction as bathwater goes down the plug-hole, it pumps out thousands

of megatons of energy daily. Surrounding high pressure steers it erratically landward, and when terra firma cuts its water-supply it collapses.

The highest casualties have always been in the East — 300,000 on the Indo-China coast in 1881 for example — and Atlantic deaths have rarely reached 2,000. An exception was the West Indies "Great Hurricane" of October 1780, which killed around 20,000. Galveston in Texas lost 6,000 dead (a sixth of its population), with 3,600 houses destroyed, in 1900. Since then it has been protected by a massive 11-mile sea wall.

In the age of sail shipping, losses were catastrophic, but living Americans still remember the fate of Task Force 38, caught refuelling at sea by a Philippines typhoon in December 1944. It lost three destroyers, 145 aircraft and 790 men. In 1945, the heavy cruiser USS *Pittsburgh* had its bows ripped clean off. Although hurricanes radically

affected Caribbean naval affairs in the American War of Independence, not least in 1780, their most remarkable impact on world politics was at Samoa in 1889. Here HMS *Calliope*, under Captain Kane, arrived to find a bellicose German squadron starting a colonial war with the inhabitants, who were already under protection of an equal American force. Kane's meditations were aided by the hurricane of March 15-16, from which only *Calliope* escaped, thanks to brilliant handling and relatively advanced engines. At six German and American warships were wrecked, with 150 dead and heroism from all sides in a joint life-saving effort.

The outcomes were extraordinary. Bismarck hosted a Berlin conference which framed political solutions lasting until 1914. The incident also launched the modern American navy in terms of technical advance and the global application of seapower. Robert Louis Stevenson, an eyewitness, called it "a marking epoch in world history".

The author is a historian at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

## Calling the Bundesbank's bluff

Mr Lamont must have the courage  
to wage economic war against the  
Germans, argues Anatole Kaletsky

When Churchill recommended "jaw, jaw" as a policy in preference to "war, war", he was not, of course, referring to battles in the foreign exchanges. And he had in mind rather more accomplished jaws than those of Norman Lamont. After yesterday's collective raspberry from the world's currency dealers, the Chancellor may have got the message. The markets want action not words.

Conventional wisdom in the City has it that there is only one action tough enough to convince investors to stop selling sterling: an increase in interest rates, and one much bigger than the half a percentage point that is making Tory backbenchers and industry leaders swoon with dread. Some indication of what might be required to "defend" sterling comes from Britain's own experience: in the autumn of 1981, Sir Geoffrey Howe lifted base rates from 12 per cent to 16 per cent in 1988-9, defending the pound required a doubling of base rates from 7½ per cent to 15 per cent. Anyone who thinks that ERM membership would make a half-point increase sufficient should consider the experience of Italy, which raised interest rates to 17 per cent after the Danish referendum in June, yet is now floundering again at the bottom of the ERM.

Unlike Britain, however, Italy is a country whose economy is still growing and where consumers are net creditors, rather than debtors on a monumental scale. In Britain, by contrast, an increase of even a single percentage point in base rates would guarantee a deeper and more prolonged economic slump. This in turn, would undermine confidence in sterling, and might well counteract all of the supposed "benefits" of higher interest rates. So for Mr Lamont to opt for higher rates to defend sterling might well prove financially counter-productive. But what else could the government do?

The answer is fight back. As in any war, the first task is to identify the real enemy, the second is to assess his true objective, and the third is to launch a counter-attack. All three of these tasks have been made much easier in the last few weeks by the actions of the Bundesbank.

In a series of carefully timed speeches and public statements, the Bundesbank has been engaging in an almost open battle against the politicians of Germany, America and the rest of Europe. Two weeks ago, the campaign of supposedly coordinated interventions by world central banks to prop up the dollar was openly sabotaged by the Bundesbank's director for international affairs, who stated publicly that Germany would pay dollars only at Washington's behest. Yesterday the president of the state central bank of North-Rhine Westphalia declared that ERM currencies had "potential for realignment" within minutes of Mr Lamont's promise that a realignment was out of the question.

Even in Germany, the Bundesbank has begun to be identified as a political loose cannon, and a source of instability not only for European and transatlantic relations, but also for Germany's domestic economic affairs. The standard riposte to all criticisms of monetary policy is to recall the horrors of hyperinflation in the Weimar

Republic. But the unexpected increase in Germany's discount rate last month, which unleashed the present instability in the world's financial markets, seems to have shaken even the German establishment. It has provoked a series of sharp attacks in the German media by economists, trade unionists and even some opposition politicians. These culminated on Monday, in *Der Spiegel*, the authoritative news weekly, which ran a three-page attack on the central bank's political ambitions, entitled "Sabotage against Bonn".

*Spiegel* compared the Bundesbank's secret and politically unaccountable decision-making with that of the Communist party politburo in the former East Germany. What has all this to do with sterling and Mr Lamont? The fact is that the present turbulence in the world financial markets is not a "sterling crisis", nor even a dollar crisis, but a mark crisis. It is the mark — with its shadow, the Swiss franc — that is moving out of line with other world currencies, not the pound, dollar, franc or yen. The mark's over-



Currency out of control: memories of the great inflation of the Twenties fuel Germany's monetary neurosis today

weening strength, in turn, is caused by the monetary and political objectives of the Bundesbank. Britain's misfortune is that it pinned the pound to the mark at precisely the time that Germany's monetary policy began to fall into disarray. The government obviously has the option of simply detaching the pound from the mark, but like the French, Italian and other European leaders, Mr Major has pinned his entire political credibility to maintaining the present exchange-rate with the mark.

The European governments have been encouraged to do this by the German government's support of the ERM and promotion of the idea of European monetary union. The Bundesbank has always opposed EMU, since it would entail the loss of its status as an independent institution. The international financial chaos in the run-up to the French referendum has now given it a last chance to kill EMU, and this is the battle now

being played out in the foreign exchanges. Fortunately, it is a battle in which the British, French and other European governments enjoy a big tactical advantage. Under the rules of the ERM, the Bundesbank is obliged to intervene in the markets without limit as soon as the pound or any other currency reaches its absolute floor against the mark. Such intervention could have a huge and unwelcome impact on Germany's domestic money supply. The mark reserves held last year by foreign central banks were about DM 151 billion, equal to more than half of Germany's domestic central bank money stock. Every DM 10 billion of marks sold by the central bank would increase Germany's money supply by 3.7 per cent.

By intervening aggressively against the mark, the other central banks can sabotage the Bundesbank's attempts to control the German domestic money supply. If their intervention fails, the rules of the ERM, over which the Bundesbank has no control, will require Germany to flood its

money markets with ever larger quantities of marks. In order to reassert control of its domestic money supply, the Bundesbank would then have to raise its interest rates even higher, but short of a really crippling increase in German rates, ERM rules would make it practically impossible for the Bundesbank to maintain monetary control.

Such a campaign of aggressive intervention against the mark would lead to one of two reactions. The Bundesbank would either quickly sue for peace and hint that the next move in German rates would be downwards, or it would counterattack with a further rise in German interest rates that would cripple German industry and provoke the collapse of the ERM.

Either way, after the dust had settled, Britain would be free to start cutting interest rates. For Mr Lamont to increase rates now, instead of standing up to the Bundesbank, would not be an act of courage. It would be the monetary equivalent of shooting himself in the foot before the battle was joined.

...and moreover

## PETER BARNARD

I have walked the perimeter, which is no picnic given the forecast occasional showers which have joined themselves together somewhere overhead. I have clambered over the dry-stone wall and taken sightings from sundry angles in the adjoining field of spring wheat, and I apologise for any diminution in subsidy this may have caused. Now I am back at the homestead, the soon-to-be famous homestead, the photogenic homestead, fully acquainted with what needs to be done.

I have made notes and accompanying sketches. Ideally, I should have been airborne, as he will be. Never easy to tell, from the ground, even from the top of the dry-stone wall, how a building and its environs will strike a man in a helicopter.

Does long grass matter? Will the crack in the side wall show up? If so, should I rush out and buy a bag of set-in-minutes frost-resistant ready-mixed cement?

Will the presence of the cement make the crack more visible, thus meaning that I need at least two cans of Dulux Weathershield, the one that comes with a shaggy dog? Could I have a golden retriever instead? Preferably, my wife inserts, made of wood. This project has complications undreamed of when the letter came through the door.

In a plain brown envelope, without a stamp, I thought it was a bill, and indeed it could well turn into one. "Commission-Air's helicopter will be flying over your area during the week com-

mencing Monday 21st September. At your request we will supply two (e.g. front and rear) 10" x 8" mounted aerial photographs of a property of your choice in full colour complete with negatives."

A property of my choice? Hint of a suicide escape clause there, a rebuff. Is there something wrong with my property? They have been snooping around here already. I know they have. They have taken a provisional Polaroid, they have gathered in their flight briefing room and examined under a magnifying glass certain aspects of my property which suggest it is not in the round-the-clock care of overalled artisans with paint rollers and cementing trowels. But there is time yet. "You've got plenty of time to prepare, time to trim hedges and mow lawns." And "Watch your photos being taken! Be in the garden on the day!"

We did not need the exclamation marks. We possess the reading skills. We have got the message. We shall be in the garden on The Day and on every day between this day and The Day. That is when we are not up a ladder making sure all the roof tiles are parallel, one with another, and free of moss. When we are not out buying clothes (smart-casual is our present learning). When we are not up an even longer ladder, either removing the television aerial altogether or corseting it with steel braces and attendant stainless-steel bolts of sufficient diameter to ensure that it will appear in colour at a less

unconventional angle than its present one.

The garden shed, there is another worry. I bought the roofing felt months ago, but somehow... on one side of the shed roof, the felt has altogether vanished. We know how it feels to live in Louisiana. Wind? Tall ship captains beg us to package it. But you cannot actually see the bare bit of roof, so human nature being what it is... Inside the shed, left side, above the length of pipe that will come in handy one day, where the water comes in, well, carrots grow — and we have not even opened the seed packets yet. A miracle of nature.

From the air, though, very likely a different story. A gash on the landscape, that roof. I shouldn't wonder. An aesthetic offence likely to cause a helicopter pilot to slide back his perspex and toss me a note attached to a brick. Photographer has replaced lens hood, very sorry. I daresay it will be Snowden or O'Neill or Bailey, one of those up-market snappers, known as a smugger in the trade, one of those types who is unused, when summoning up a shed roof, to finding it half undressed. The Unipart calendar this is not.

So must get up on that shed roof, sooner. Which means it is just a question of the shed, the flies, the aerial, the quick-dry, the Dulux and the smart-casual. According to aforementioned leaflet, the cost of the two 10" x 8" complete with negatives is £69 including VAT. That is all they know.

## Gone Green

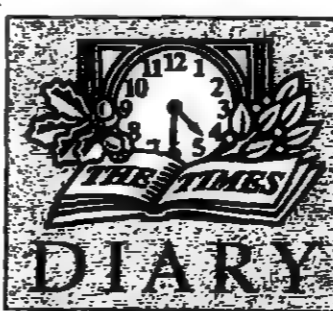
SARA PARKIN, leading light of the Greens, is quitting the party amid considerable acrimony at the outset of the conference season. After a bitter campaign against her by activists, Parkin announced yesterday that she was leaving, and denounced the party as riddled with "chronic mistrust" and blighted by internal manoeuvring which has reduced it to "political impotence".

The decision was immediately described as a "devastating blow" by the Greens' senior figures, who admitted that they had kept the simmering row quiet for six months in an attempt to minimise the damage to the party since its disastrous general election result.

Her resignation letter reads: "Sadly I have been forced to the conclusion that the Green Party has become a liability to green politics. Instead of being a standard bearer, the Green Party as it is now only provides its detractors with regular proof of its unfitness to contribute to the rapidly evolving political debate."

The former party leader adds: "I see no point in squandering my time and energy and spirit fighting endless redundant skirmishes behind the Green Party barricades. There are so many real battles to be fought against the forces destroying our world."

Her departure leaves Jonathan Porritt unchallenged in the party's leadership, although Greens detest the word. He could soon face a new challenge. David Icke — he of the purple trackuits — is planning a comeback, and is due to address the party's fringe at their conference in Wolverhampton next month. Perhaps Parkin got out just in time.



Who is Princess Squidgy? What is the star sign of the mystery man of the Diagonale tapes? These are just some of the updated questions the purchasers of Royal Trivia can expect to find when they cough up their £12.50 for the board game which is also hugely popular in America. Royal Trivia is marketed by none other than Harry Arnold of the Daily Mirror, days of the royal ratpack. Arnold was unavailable for comment yesterday, on a fortnight's holiday, believed to be dreaming up new questions for the revised edition of his nice little game.

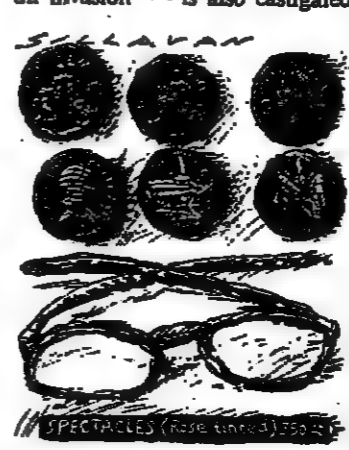
## Classic howlers

PUPILS who discover that they have failed their ancient history exam, as the dreaded brown GCSE envelopes lands on the nation's doormats, have the full sympathy of the Roman Research Trust. The group, which brings together some of Britain's foremost academics in the subject, has denounced the examination resource books as "full of nonsense".

Dr Graham Webster, the group's trustee, says that the books being followed by the new national curriculum are riddled with mistakes. "I was appalled by the nonsense I found. I filed 18 foolscap pages with serious errors and misunderstandings," says Webster. "For ex-

ample they say Hadrian's Wall was built to keep out the Picts. But the Picts were sea raiders, who do not appear until the end of the 4th century."

Another assertion — that "the legions, on order from Rome, marched out of Britain in AD 410, and then there was the Anglo-Saxon invasion" — is also castigated.



by the trust. "No troops left Britain at this time, nor was there an Anglo-Saxon invasion," says Webster. These are totally outdated ideas from the old romantic view of history.

## Not an EC life

WITH Lord Owen ruled out by several of the delegations to the Yugoslav peace talks, the London conference is awash with rumours about who will succeed Lord Carrington as the EC's peace envoy.

Owen's cause cannot have been helped by an article on this page earlier this month, entitled "When it is right to fight", in which he urged the deployment of Nato airpower. Yet there seems to be no obvious alternative candidate.

Perhaps the most eminent and qualified possibility is Hans

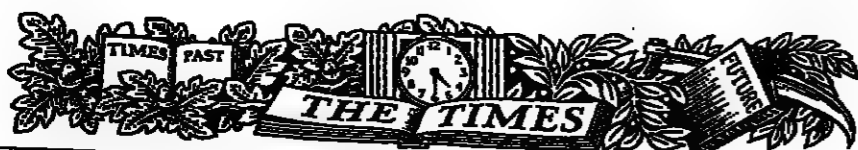
Dietrich Genscher, the former German foreign minister, who stood down last year. But it was Genscher, against Britain's wishes, who forced through early EC recognition of Croatia — a decision which the Serbs insist led to civil war.

If an alternative British candidate is acceptable, the name of Sir Edward Heath, who launched his own high-profile attempt to stop the Gulf war, may also be put forward, although his age might count against him. The same factor might rule out Lord Healey too.

Some cynics at the conference were yesterday suggesting that only a Belgian was sufficiently anonymous to do the job. If so, Viscount Etienne Davignon, the former EC commissioner, who was supported for the EC presidency in 1984 by Baroness Thatcher, must be a contender. A more exciting option would be the flamboyant former Italian foreign secretary, Gianni De Michelis, who had several supporters at the talks yesterday. With his generous waistline and unkempt hair, the Venetian socialist is best known for the top-selling guide he wrote to 250 of Italy's discotheques. He is unlikely to find many such establishments in present-day Bosnia.

Those who think that all politicians are hard-nosed cynics have been surprised and probably delighted yesterday at the sight of Jan Pronk, the Dutch minister for overseas development, bursting into tears in front of a Dutch parliamentary committee as he described his recent trip to famine-stricken Somalia. Pronk was moved not only to tears but also to action. With the Dutch foreign minister safely out of the way in London, Pronk — to the astonishment of his government colleagues — unilaterally increased the Dutch contribution to Somalia's aid budget to 23 million guilders.

150



## MARKING TIME

Those nostalgic for the days of fixed exchange rate crises had a field day yesterday. Norman Lamont was forced to make a morale-boosting statement in the street, defying speculators to do their worst. Central banks spent millions by way of support. Dealers looked to their calendars to work out when reality was likely to break through. They found September 20, the date of the French referendum on Maastricht.

Given the box into which his predecessor had imprisoned him, Mr Lamont could have said nothing else yesterday. He had to rule out a devaluation of sterling and re-emphasise Britain's commitment to the exchange-rate mechanism. Anything less would have caused a run on the pound that would have made recent events in the foreign exchange markets seem humdrum. Yet since "realignments" are best made as a surprise, Mr Lamont's statement was also compatible with the very opposite of what he said. His was no guide to what is going to happen, merely a show of self-confidence, the familiar mood music of sterling crises past.

There is little prospect of a general realignment within the ERM before the French referendum. This is regrettable since the essence of the ERM is that it is not meant to be inflexible, or dependent on political events. Realignments are in order where monetary conditions demand them, as they do now. Raising interest rates in the present economic climate would be a disaster, and Mr Lamont and the entire cabinet are rightly appalled at the prospect.

However, the question of a realignment will surface straight after the French referendum, whatever its outcome. One is almost inevitable if the French vote "non". A partially present potential for realignment was yesterday outlined by one of the senior members of Germany's Bundesbank, who insisted that only "prestige reasons" had prevented such a realignment over the past five years. The Bundesbank later issued a

public denial, but this only emphasises the extreme sensitivity of the question.

The present turbulence may have been triggered by the slump in the dollar, which always tends to favour the mark and put downward pressure on other European currencies. But the underlying tension is due to Germany's economic difficulties, stemming from unification. What can be done to stop Germany's problem spilling on to its neighbours is the central question of European politics. The mark will not temporarily leave the ERM: removing the system's anchor would be tantamount to returning to free-floating exchange rates. A revaluation of the mark would be better, even at some risk of pushing the German economy further into recession.

A French no vote would remove any "prestige reasons" preventing a realignment. The ERM would no longer be seen as a precursor to a single currency. It would shrug off its self-imposed straitjacket and revert to the system of managed exchange rates that it originally was. A French yes vote would make the chances of a realignment somewhat smaller, but the underlying state of the German economy would remain problematic. German interest rates might have to rise again, in which case Mr Lamont would have no option but to raise rates or demand a sterling devaluation. Without a realignment, German interest rates would remain high for a long time, while Britain's economy would remain depressed and its politics in turmoil.

From a British point of view, a realignment that takes account of Germany's unusual economic position is desirable and vastly preferable to a unique devaluation of sterling. Until the French referendum, then, Mr Lamont must continue to prop up sterling through heavy intervention in the markets. After that, he must try to persuade his European neighbours that a realignment is overdue. Obsession with "prestige" is threatening to ruin their economies as well as his.

## SOLDIERS OF PEACE

Is the world expecting too much of the United Nations? Does it believe that a new world order can be enforced by sending in the blue berets wherever a brush fire threatens to flare up into an international conflagration? Dr Boutros Boutros Ghali, the tart-tongued secretary-general, thinks so and is not afraid to tell the big powers to stop ordering in the UN without first calculating the political and financial costs.

Sitting beside John Major at the opening of the London conference on Yugoslavia, the secretary-general yesterday repeated these criticisms, aiming mainly at the West. The UN cannot do more than its mandate. It cannot alone find a durable political solution for Yugoslavia. The world must look for a new approach for resolving this and other conflicts by collective effort.

He is right. The resources of the UN and the time and energy of its staff are stretched too thin. Since the end of the Cold war, it has taken on almost as many new peace-keeping and humanitarian commitments as in its previous 40 years. UN forces, missions or rapporteurs have been sent to El Salvador, Somalia, South Africa, Cambodia and the Kurdish areas in Iraq as well as Yugoslavia. Yet few governments, least of all the Americans, seem ready to pay the bill for tossing the world's problems into the UN's lap.

On coming to office, Dr Boutros Ghali was asked by a summit of the security council to outline how the UN could strengthen its peace-making machinery, and especially how it could do more in the field of preventative diplomacy. His report, issued two months ago, was sensible, realistic and challenging. He said that enforcing the peace, in the way many were proposing in Yugoslavia and Cambodia, would demand troops much more heavily armed than those used to monitor ceasefires. The UN often needed to act quickly, drawing on forces which could be deployed within days. The

richer nations should therefore designate peace-enforcement units within their own armed forces, who would be specially trained and paid from national defence budgets rather than by the impecunious UN.

This report was given a polite but lukewarm reception. Few Western governments have yet faced up to the need to finance UN operations directly from their own budgets. Most accept the need for early action to warn of starvation, ethnic conflict and threats to international stability. But until these threats become real and fill the television screens, public opinion and hence governments care little for tomorrow's conflicts.

One part of his report, however, has been more productive. Dr Boutros Ghali insisted that regional organisations should do more to keep the peace in their part of the world. For the past two months he has accused the Europeans of unloading responsibilities that should be their own in Yugoslavia. As he said again yesterday, Europe has vast economic and military resources. Yet it had failed to respect the agreed division of labour with the UN, leaving UN soldiers exposed, their orders confused and their resources stretched. The London conference is recognition that the EC, in co-operation with Nato, the Western European Union and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, must do its bit.

Subsidiarity applies as much to security as it does to politics and economics. The UN in New York cannot patrol the world any more than Brussels can rule Europe. Douglas Hurd pertinently asked in his *Panorama* interview on Monday: do we really want the UN as a new imperial power deciding that this or that ruler was bad and had to go? The UN enshrines the principles on which any post Cold war order must be based. It may deal with threats to international security but it cannot reorder the mayhem of every mismanaged state.

## TIMED TO FORGET

Among this year's box of tricks brought forth by the nation's bobbies at their annual summer festival is a gadget for improving on the human memory. It is a tiny computer and radio transmitter, worn like a wrist-watch. Into it goes all the information that the user thinks ought to be remembered. It can be told to remind the wearer to speak to a colleague at the first opportunity. When said colleague hoves into view (presumably also wearing one of the wristwatch thing goes wild with excitement.

Would the scientists who introduced the idea to the British Association for the Advancement of Science yesterday, Dr Abigail Sellen and Mike Lamming of the Rank Xerox research institute, welcome a small suggestion? Perhaps they could even program their prototype with it if they can remember how. It is that they should speak to Professor Harold Thimbleby of Stirling University at the first opportunity.

Professor Thimbleby is also appearing at Southampton University, though in decidedly anti-gadget mode. He was reporting research into the reason why John Major's nation is not yet at ease with itself, namely that it still cannot figure out how to work the timer on its video tape recorders. From this he draws a general point. Gadgetry, particularly the electronic kind, is too complicated. Nobody over 14 can remember how to use it.

The professor says that manufacturers build in knobs and buttons galore because they think it adds to their machine's high-tech selling points. The public is indeed taken in, until it gets home. At this point everybody needs a memory-promoting wrist-watch, provided it is not itself subject to what ought to be called the Thimbleby Principle. Only thus will they ever be able to remember

how to make all the other things work. The principle is that electronic gadgets increase in complexity until they reach the level of the user's incompetence. Designers invariably go one step too far. Carried away by what is technically feasible, they persuade themselves that all CD players, for instance, would welcome a facility to mess around with Beethoven's Fifth, to start it with the scherzo or mix it with Strauss.

To be a true Thimbleby, however, this advanced control feature must also be operated differently from every other version of its kind. Thus no two video machines will be over-complicated in the same way, so that mastering one is no use whatever towards mastering another. At least the chap who invented the wheel made sure the next one was the same pattern.

The average household now contains numerous digital clocks and timers, including the one that is crucial for video recording purposes. They also crop up on central heating controls, ovens, telephones, hi-fi systems and alarm clocks, and no doubt will soon be standard on dishwashers and vacuum cleaners too. Fine, except no two digital clocks are ever set or altered by the same procedure.

Twice a year at least, how to change a digital clock has to be rediscovered afresh by any teenage prodigy who happens to be around. They are the only ones whose brains, Professor Thimbleby has discovered, are supple enough for the mental gymnastics required. Unlike adults, they do not assume they know in advance how things work and thus they crack the secret quicker. They even have no inhibitions about resorting to the only known antidote to Thimblebism: when all else fails, read the instructions.

## UN mandate for pressure on Iraq

From the Director of the United Nations Association, UK

Sir, Marc Weller makes a number of interesting points ("Intervention plans lack specific UN sanction", August 20); but I am not convinced by his statement that when, early last year, Iraq had been deemed to have done what was required to bring into force a definite cessation of hostilities, "the mandate to use force against Iraq lapsed".

UN Security Council resolution 678 permitted the use of "all necessary means", not just to secure the implementation of resolution 660 (i.e., to reverse the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait) but also to restore international peace and security in the area. There was, of course, no time scale for the full implementation of that November 1990 resolution (678).

So, the question arises whether the action of the Iraqi government against its own citizens in the southern marshlands constitutes a threat to peace in the area. Given the Iraqis' interest in the area's Shia inhabitants, there is a strong case for arguing that a threat does, indeed, exist.

Very sadly, there remain various security council demands which the Iraqis have not yet met. I suggest that the council should send forthwith a list of all these unfulfilled requirements to President Saddam Hussein, via an influential intermediary, together with a specific timetable for their implementation.

We are fearful that, without such an approach, the UN will simply lurch from crisis to crisis in its relationship with Iraq, with little credit to the security council — and Saddam will continue to prevaricate. Yours faithfully, MALCOLM HARPER, Director, United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 3 Whitehall Court, SW1, August 24.

## UK record on aid

From the Minister for Overseas Development

Sir, It is disappointing that the Director General of Save the Children Fund, in his interview with Valerie Grove ("Big Brother is watching you", *Life & Times*, August 14), chose not to include the UK in the list of countries which "choose to channel funds through us" — all the more so because the British government has a particularly close working relationship with the SCF.

My department has dramatically increased support for the non-governmental sector in recent years. Between 1989-90 and 1990-1, the last years for which final figures are available, our support rose by 35 per cent, and I expect that the increase between 1990-1 and 1991-2 will be even greater.

Last year alone we provided SCF with over £10 million for humanitarian relief work and £3.5 million for their long-term development work. Somalia, Ethiopia, northern Iraq, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Liberia are just some of the countries where SCF have recently brought relief to victims of famine and civil strife.

Yours truly, CHALKER OF WALLASEY, Overseas Development Administration, 94 Victoria Street, SW1.

## Women engineers

From the Secretary of the Institute of Marine Engineers

Sir, I can readily confirm what Mr. Natus (letter, August 21) does us the credit of assuming — that we do not practise sexual discrimination in electing members to this institute.

We would welcome women to the grade of fellow with open arms. They would follow fittingly in the footsteps of a remarkable lady called Victoria Drummond, who qualified in the 1920s, had a distinguished war record, and eventually sailed the China seas as a chief engineer.

Sadly, however, marine engineering is not a branch of the engineering profession that so far has attracted many women to its ranks, and some of those who have embarked on the appropriate course of studies have not subsequently attempted to pursue a career in this field.

Those who stay the course will find no barriers to progress within the echelons of this institute.

Yours sincerely, JOLYON SLOGGETT, Secretary, The Institute of Marine Engineers, The Memorial Building, 76 Mark Lane, EC3, August 24.

## National park control

From the Director of the Council for National Parks

Sir, Your leader of August 18, "Preserving a park", supports the proposal that Exmoor National Park should be run as a local government unitary authority, its boundaries would be extended to include neighbouring towns.

The authority would be responsible not only for conservation, recreation and planning but also for the whole range of local authority services, from schools to social services. In effect there would no longer be a national park but a standard unit of local government. High-

## Teachers who tread on parent rights

From Mr Colin MacVicar

Sir, Lady Warnock ("Trampling on teachers", August 24) complains that the governors of St Paul's Girls' School, under pressure by conservative parents, have rejected the proposals of the high mistress. She should be aware that it is no longer self-evident that teacher knows best.

For certain "professionals" it may be a bore having to persuade conservative parents of the rightness of any major innovation; but the exercise may be beneficial. I wish all the "progressive changes" proposed for education in the last 40 years had been subjected to analysis by such a concerned, sceptical audience.

In any case, in a world where consumers have rights and citizens have charters, it simply will no longer wash for educationists to claim the right to ride rough-shod over parents. Lady Warnock would have done better to address herself to the problem of recreating mutual respect between the educational establishment and parents rather than dismissing parents as reactionary, over-demanding clients.

I am sure that there will continue to be many women teachers who are eager to consider parents not as a pack of nuisances, haunted by myths, bamboozled by the press and obsessed by results, but rather as the intelligent, informed and involved partners that many are.

Yours sincerely, C. P. MACVICAR, 59rd Fernhead Road, W9, August 24.

## From Mr J. R. Stone

Sir, I read Lady Warnock's lament with the greatest concern. I recall all too vividly the miserable "reform" that was inflicted on my generation 25 years ago in the name of maximising the number of O levels.

Then, as now, those responsible for admissions at the more sought-after universities found it difficult to put much weight on GCE results, as these failed utterly to help them discriminate between the good candidate and the merely efficient. An admissions tutor at Oxford, for example, who paid more than passing attention to O-level results, other than in relation to pre-A level candidates, would have been accused by his colleagues of missing the point.

In the circumstances of the late 1960s a decision to require a dozen or more O-level subjects to be studied was presented by schools as a broadening of the curriculum, which indeed it was when compared with their previous system of four O levels (done in a year), three A levels and a headlong tilt at university entrance by the age of 18.

So it is now, with this dismal insistence on the largest possible number of GCSEs. In each generation those who seek to multiply middle-school examination passes

have attacked a symptom and thereby entrenched the disease.

Lady Warnock is absolutely right to imply that in the higher reaches of our secondary education system a concentration on public mid-school examinations can only constrict the educational process. The answer now is what it should have been then: worry only about those examinations which will matter in the child's future (A levels), ignore the others and use the resulting freedom to do something sensible and enjoyable with those mid-school years.

If Mrs Williams, the high mistress who has resigned, described the inevitable result of the contrary approach as an examination-induced desert she, too, was merely speaking the truth.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY STONE, 90 Cromwell Avenue, Highgate, N6, August 24.

## From Mr Kenneth Briggs

Sir, Is it true, as Lady Warnock asserts, that universities pay "virtually no attention" to lists of GCSEs at grade A? Recent discussions I had with an Oxford admissions tutor suggested not, simply because, at the application stage, there is no further firm academic evidence to go on and schools' A-level forecasts are treated with much caution.

However, as a teacher in a similarly academic school to St Paul's Girls I would certainly like to think it was true. Lady Warnock's vision of excellence and "educational imagination", untrammelled by the requirements of large numbers of examination courses, presents a challenge that we in the privileged independent sector should relish.

Our pupils are, by and large, more keenly motivated than those in the maintained sector. We should be able to "sell" them worthwhile and demanding courses without the constraints of an ubiquitous examination carrot, and thereby justify our independence.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH BRIGGS, 86 The Green, Acomb, York, August 24.

## From Sir Graham Hills, FRSE

Sir, Sensible people will applaud Mary Warnock's spirited defence of Helen Williams. At the same time they will question whether it is entirely consistent with her simultaneous defence of A levels.

It is this pernicious examination which drives the forces of early specialisation down into the middle school where, as she remarks, they do lasting damage.

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM HILLS, Sunnyside of Threepwood, Laigh Threepwood, Belth, Ayrshire.

## A name for the adopted

From Mrs Philippa Seligman

Sir, Heather Kirby's article, "Adoption and adaptation — a father's dilemma" (*Life & Times*, August 25), highlights the need for care when choosing words to differentiate between children born into a family and those brought in by adoption. To refer to the former as "natural" implies that the latter are unnatural. Similarly, the often-used "biological" sounds like a soap powder.

Perhaps the best we can do is "birth child" and "adopted child", thus permitting "birth mother" etc. Terminology influences society's attitudes, and vice versa.

Yours sincerely, PHILIPPA SELIGMAN (Chairman, Association for Family Therapy), 22 West Orchard Crescent, Llandaff, Cardiff.

## Dull and moronic?

From Mr Jonathan King

Sir, Janet Daley ("Roll over disc jockeys", August 18) slams Radio One as "dull, patronising and moronic", knocking the "perpetual phone-ins". They don't have phone-in programmes on Radio One.

Despite general BBC hierarchy distaste for "pop music" and with very little support from the British music industry, Radio One has in fact spent a quarter of a century promoting British artists in a very difficult position. With a duty to appeal to all listeners, because of its charter and instructions from the BBC board, it has trodden the risky path of combining mass-appeal and pioneering spirit.

It has provided dreadful jokes alongside intelligent documentaries

and instant, commercial hits at the same time as extraordinary new music. As a result, British music still rules the world, mainly thanks to Radio One having the guts to promote fresh talent (something that never happens in America — even on college radio).

Hasn't Janet Daley appreciated the live concert coverage that Radio One provides? Hasn't she noticed that the best innovative American groups and artists break in the UK first and only then get picked up by the stunningly conformist US radio? I thought Miss Daley's piece was dull, patronising and moronic.

Best wishes, JONATHAN KING, UK Records Communications and Entertainment, 66 George Street, W1, August 18.

by your leader, two thirds of those who serve on a national park authority are councillors from the park and its environs; people who have been elected to serve their local communities. Importantly, the other third is made up of local people with expertise to offer who have been invited by the secretary of state to serve the national interest in the parks.

The priority should be to make the park authorities more effective by introducing the promised national parks legislation and not to dilute them by absorbing them into local government.

Yours sincerely, AMANDA NOBBS, Director, Council for National Parks, 246 Lavender Hill, SW11, August 19.

## Council tax and housing market

From the Director of the Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation

Sir, Tony Travers ("Worse than poll tax?", August 18) may be guilty of a little midsummer exaggeration in his description of the dire effect the introduction of the council tax is likely to have on the housing market next year.

It is academically correct, all other things being equal, to say that to switch from a person to a property tax will depress property values. But the reverse clearly did not happen when the poll tax was introduced in 1989 in Scotland and in 1990 in England. House values fell during that period, at a time when they should have been stimulated by the tax switch, at least at the upper end of the market.

The fact is that the effect of the tax changes was then swamped, and may well be again, by the much larger repercussions of interest-rate policy, confidence in the economy and the availability of credit. In any case, the effects of the switch for house owners were masked then, as they will be now, by the government's "transitional relief" arrangements, specifically designed to cushion the impact of higher bills where these arise from a change in system.

My guess is that the impact of the council tax valuation exercise on what remains a very fragile housing market may come rather earlier than April next year, when the tax arrives. The draft valuation lists are becoming available to local authorities and will be published in December.

Even though the bandings have been related to a valuation date of April 1991 — before the latest drift downwards in prices — they do appear, particularly in London and the south-east, to be at the very low end of most people's expectations. This no doubt reflects the natural caution of the valuers and the fact that they were carrying out fairly rough, external assessments.

The government will have a major task in the coming months to explain that these bandings are not valuations in the sense that we are used to when purchasing or mortgaging houses, and that their significance lies not in absolute values but in establishing relative values for the purpose of distributing a tax. Otherwise they may add a further downward twist to consumer confidence, on which the recovery of the economy clearly now depends.

Once this hurdle is passed, my personal view is that the council tax does represent a solid fiscal foundation for local government, capable of being used not only to regulate the boom/bust pattern in the domestic housing market, as referred to by Tony Travers, but also of establishing a tax system for local government distinctive from that operated by the centre, thus ensuring its financial freedom in an age of over-centralisation.

Yours faithfully, COLIN FARRINGTON, Director, The Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation, 41 Doughty Street, WC1.

## Statutory sick pay

From Mr David Shamash

Sir, Your correspondents (August 19, 24) complain about the cost to employers of statutory sick pay. I have found it is preferable for one's secretary to fall pregnant rather than to fall ill.

Mine has just left to have a baby and we pay her statutory maternity pay which we get refunded in full, plus an extra 4.5 per cent compensation for national insurance paid.

Yours faithfully, DAVID SHAMASH (Director), Covent Garden Group, 34 Floral Street, WC2.

## Willing subject

From Mr Jim Campbell

Sir, Catherine Howard's vow on her marriage to Henry VIII to be "buxom in bed" was indeed made at a time when buxom had totally different connotations from those it possesses today. However Lady Antonia Fraser (*Life & Times*, August 21) is not quite right in thinking that it meant "good-natured".

It did in fact mean "agreeable", but in the submissive sense of allowing the husband's will to prevail, in this case sexually, rather than an implied bearing affability.

Yours faithfully, JIM CAMPBELL, 48 Acomb Road, York, August 21.

## From Professor W. T. Stearn

Sir, It is surprising indeed to find a writer of such precision as Lady Antonia Fraser attributed with saying that Henry VIII "conceived a lot of children as a young man". To conceive a child is a woman's privilege, to beget one a man's. I remember being taken to task some 65 years ago, as a schoolboy translating Latin, for not making this linguistic distinction.

"Madam there is no excuse", I can imagine Samuel Johnson saying in 1755, his Dictionary at hand.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM T. STEARN, 17 High Park Road, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.



OBITUARIES

COLIN HARRIS

Colin Grendon Harris, CMG, secretary-general of the Gold Commission, died on July 21 aged 79. He was born on October 25 1912.

SADLY, Colin Harris died just too soon to finish the job which had been part of his life for almost two decades. But he died knowing that it was virtually complete. The British government announced only last May that it had reached an agreement with Albania over compensation for the Corfu Channel Incident of 1946 when two Royal Navy destroyers were sunk with the loss of 44 lives after sailing into an Albanian minefield in the Mediterranean. The compromise this year in turn removed Britain's long-standing opposition to returning £10 million worth of Albanian gold seized by the Nazis during the second world war.



Poland in the mid-1970s and Czechoslovakia in the early 1980s were the last two countries to have their claims settled by the Gold Commission, which was established by Britain, the United States and France under the 1946 Paris Agreement on Reparations, to replenish the plundered vaults of occupied Europe.

land will probably have to be shared out among the original claimants, then the Commission will almost certainly be wound up. It was thought at the time it was established that its brief would probably take several months to complete. In fact it will have worked nearly half a century.

Colin Harris joined the Commission in the middle 1970s, running the administration from an office in the British Embassy in Brussels—the same city where the Inter-Allied Reparations Agency was set up after the war. The commissioners are always the commercial attachés at the British, French and American embassies in Belgium.

Harris was then already in his sixties, having taken early retirement from the diplomatic service some years before. The son of a London bank manager, he was educated at Rossall School and Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he read economics and history.

Joining the foreign service in 1935, he specialised in commercial work and subsequently served throughout the world with postings in San Francisco, Antwerp, the Congo, Lisbon, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Vienna, Tokyo and Oslo — from where he retired in 1969.

He tried to join up several times during the war but he had caught both polio and blackwater fever in the Congo and was turned down. After retiring he lived in Switzerland for five years then moved to Belgium where he was offered the job of running the Gold Commission in Brussels. He was still employed there at the time of his death.

Colin Harris met and married his first wife, a Polish countess, Adelaide Zamojska, while he was serving in the Congo. But she died while they were living in Portugal, leaving him with three young children. While in South America in 1947, he married his second wife, Belgian-born Monique Maucuse-Baudouin, and is survived by her, by their two sons and by two sons and a daughter from his first marriage.

ADMIRAL SIR DAVID HALLIFAX

Admiral Sir David (John) Hallifax, KCB, KCVO, KBE, Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle, died on August 23 aged 64. He was born on September 3, 1927.



HOWEVER badly things seemed to be going in the Falklands War, the calm, reassuring voice of David Hallifax was like a balm to the hard-pressed commanders of the British Task Force.

As Chief of Staff to Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Hallifax was in day-to-day control of his headquarters. There, in the underground bunker at Northwood, Middlesex, he ensured the smooth running of the joint-service operation which was crucial to the task force's success 8,000 miles away. No small measure of the ultimate credit should go to him.

To those embattled in the South Atlantic, he also seemed a perfect interlocutor. It was Hallifax whom they usually addressed when they came through on the secure telephone link, and his dry humour was a stimulating tonic.

This laid-back style had always belied an incisive mind. As a young officer on the Royal Navy's torpedo and anti-submarine (TAS) course, he had celebrated its termination prematurely. On the morning after the night before, he arrived late for the final grueling three-hour paper on applied mechanics — and left the examination room half-way through, looking frazzled and ashen-faced. Nonetheless, when the results came through, his name topped the list.

His very entry to the Navy had been late. Anxious not to limit his options, his naval family had sent him not to Dartmouth but to Winchester. Since he was born in Plymouth, however, the son and the grandson of British admirals, there had never been any serious doubt over his destiny. "It was," as he once put it, "hereditary."

His family had its share of

sadness, however, when his father, a vice-admiral serving in the Middle East during the war, was shot down and killed while flying home on leave over North Africa.

Young David joined the Navy as a special entrant in 1945 and, after a tour as a midshipman in the cruiser *Kenya* in the West Indies, served for two years on a minesweeper in the late 1940s, helping to clear mines from the eastern Mediterranean.

He commanded a motor torpedo boat in British waters before taking the specialist TAS course in 1954. Two years later he was at Suez serving in the tank landing ship *Salem* which transport-

ed a Royal Tank Regiment to the canal zone. In 1959 he was sent to the Army staff college at Camberley.

He was back in the Caribbean in the early 1960s, as TAS officer with the second frigate squadron, based on HMS *Whirlwind*. Among his achievements was the formation of a ship's steel band, known as "Jim's Tins" which once performed on the radio in this country.

Hallifax commanded the battle-class destroyer *Agincourt*, 1964-65, captained one of the larger county-class destroyers, HMS *Fife*, in 1973-75, then did a tour at the Ministry of Defence as director of naval operational re-

quirements before becoming flag officer of the first flotilla — a position once held by his father. From there he went to Northwood in 1980.

He left his Chief of Staff job shortly before the final victory at Port Stanley to become Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in SACLANT's headquarters at Norfolk, Virginia.

After an unusually high profile tour in the United States he returned to the Ministry of Defence where he filled in for 12 months working on a study of ship design at the time of the great controversy over the "short-fat ship" versus the "long thin one". Then, at the start of 1986, he began his final job as commander of the Royal College of Defence Studies in Belgrave Square.

He left the Navy at the end of 1987 and early the following year was made constable and governor of Windsor Castle, a largely honorary appointment which involves acting as the Queen's representative in and around Windsor. He was the first admiral to be given the post after a succession of retired Army and RAF officers.

Tragedy was shortly to overtake him, however. In July 1989 his younger son Matthew, aged 21, was one of four Edinburgh University students drowned when their dinghy capsized in a squall while crossing at night between two islands off the coast of Donegal. David Hallifax was deeply affected by the loss.

Then last year doctors diagnosed motor neuron disease, which forced him to retire from his post at Windsor earlier this summer. This was not before the Queen personally visited his quarters at Windsor to bestow on him his third knighthood, that of the KCVO.

David Hallifax was an expert sailor who belonged to the Royal Yacht Squadron and had sailed in the Admiral's Cup. He is survived by his wife Anne, whom he married in 1962, and by one son and a daughter.

HIS HONOUR A. E. COX

His Honour Albert Edward Cox, a circuit judge from 1977 to 1989, died at his home at Teillet, France, on August 10 aged 75. He was born on September 26, 1916.

ALBERT Edward Cox, universally known as Bill Cox, was in the group of the first five solicitors appointed recorder after the passing of the Courts Act 1971 and, in 1977, was in the group of the first three solicitors to be appointed circuit judges, the new judges established by that Act.

His sittings as a recorder were in the West Country, but he sat as a judge exclusively in criminal work in central London, at first at Inner London Crown Court and later as one of the permanent judges at Southwark Crown Court, from its opening until his retirement.

His courtesy and patience were renowned and his qualities reflected in the lack of success of appeals from his court. They were also attributes that quickly reassured a nervous Bar that regarded the appointment of solicitors to the higher judiciary with considerable misgivings.

Cox, after public school, was articled to his brother in London, being admitted a solicitor in 1938. He was precipitate in joining up at the outbreak of the second world war, reporting to the recruiting office of the London Scottish Regiment. However, his military career and his physique were blighted by the illness spondylitis, which marked him for the rest of his life. He was invalided from the Army and joined the well-established practice of Claude Hornby in Great Marlborough Street in London's West End. Claude Hornby had, for years, specialised in criminal work, particularly the more glamorous society cases, and Cox continued the practice after his partner's death in the 1960s. While Cox was responsible for a number of famous defences, including those of George Blake, the Kroeger

spies and Fanny Hill, his main hallmark was the complete discretion with which he regarded the affairs of clients. Not for him the leak or statement to the press, and many in high places who consulted him benefited not only from his astute legal acumen but also from the fact that the public rarely knew that they had fallen foul of the law.

Cox's tall, stooped figure was well known in the central London magistrates' courts, where his modest courtesy masked a shrewd and steely determination and an uncompromising integrity.

His partner, Claude Hornby, founded the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association and for many years Cox acted as secretary, taking over as president in 1967. Ten years later, he became president of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences. His membership of the Parole Board complemented his sittings as a recorder before his full-time appointment to the circuit bench.

Before the war, Cox had been a noted horseman and tennis player, though pursuits went with his illness. However, he remained a formidable opponent at chess or draughts.

Cox and his second wife, Alwynne, were generous and gracious hosts both at their London home and, latterly, in France. He is survived by her and a stepson.



ELISABETH CARSON

Elisabeth Carson, contralto and music teacher, died on August 23 aged 100. She was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, on February 10, 1892.

THE life of Elisabeth Carson was split between Britain and her native Germany. She first came to England as a schoolgirl when her father, a wealthy and scholarly Jewish merchant, decided that his daughter should have a "real" education and sent her to Roedean. There she made lifelong friendships and formed a deep affinity with and love for England which was to stand her in good stead 30 years later when forced to leave Nazi Germany.

Her principal music training, back in Germany, was first in piano but the quality of her rich contralto was soon recognised and she was taken as a pupil by the leader singer, Therese Behr-Schnabel, wife of Arthur Schnabel. Her career blossomed and she became an acclaimed interpreter of the songs of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Hugo Wolf.

Her most fruitful years were spent first in Frankfurt am Main and then Berlin, where she was married to Alfred Carlbach, a prominent lawyer. Her circle of friends was eclectic and she made the most of the rich cultural life of Berlin in

the years after world war one. Having a close and enduring friendship with Carl Ebert, Fritz Busch and members of the Ulstein family, she had an entrée into the city's cultivated society and became part of the musical and literary scene. At tea with Helene Weigel she was sharp enough to criticise the boorish behaviour of Weigel's husband, Berthold Brecht.

But even with these connections a professional career for a Jewish singer became more and more difficult in the 1930s. She gave her last public recital in 1935. With life in Berlin charged with tension and danger, Elisabeth Carson decided it was time to go.

Leaving her career, her library, many friends and her country, she moved to London in 1937 and began a new and difficult life as a refugee, with few material assets and an ailing marriage. At this time she decided to become a Christian and was baptised by Donald Soper. Later in 1964, on recovering from a grave illness she became a convert to the Roman Catholic faith.

She separated from her husband and during the war settled in a Berkshire village with two friends, likewise cultivated urbanities, and her youngest daughter. With characteristic energy and good humour she began to earn her living — with a little help from the local Labour

Exchange — by teaching. Singing and piano lessons were obvious, but then came eurythmics and later German literature.

The unlikely household, with its multitude of eccentricities, became accepted. No one was too surprised when a broody hen "which needed exercise" was led up and down the village street on the end of a piece of string. Elisabeth Carson formed a choir from enthusiasts in the neighbouring Women's Institutes, was its conductor and helped it win first place, shortly after the war, at a festival of choirs at the Royal Albert Hall.

In spite of several life-threatening illnesses she continued to teach and lecture until well into her eighties. In 1953 she decided to sit her A levels and gave a memorable talk on her beloved Third Programme, as it then was, describing this process. A significant contact was made in the early 1970s with Stanbrook Abbey, a convent with strong musical traditions, where the press was run by Dame Hildegard Cumming, a musician and typographer. This friendship became one of the focal points of Elisabeth Carson's final years and she derived great pleasure from the life and work of the Stanbrook community.

She leaves a son, Andrew, and a daughter Susanna.

LARRY WADE

James Stanley Hilary Wade, MC, TD, FRCS, formerly consultant surgeon at the University Hospital of Wales, died in Cardiff on August 15 aged 76. He was born on February 13, 1916.

LARRY Wade, like his father, was a distinguished Cardiff surgeon, and his introduction to surgery came as a schoolboy when he was able to watch his father operating. After graduating at University College Hospital in 1939, he served as a medical officer at Dunkirk, and later in North Africa

where he earned the Military Cross.

On his return to clinical surgery, he was appointed consultant surgeon to the United Cardiff Hospitals in 1950. During the ensuing years he steadily built a great national and international reputation in thyroid and parathyroid surgery, and was in demand worldwide as a visiting lecturer in this field. Among many other distinctions he was president of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland in 1974.

He is survived by his wife Joan and three sons.

Astronomy

The sky at night in September

By MICHAEL J. HENDRIE, ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY starts September as a -1.2 magnitude morning star and should be visible during the first week low in the eastern sky. On the 1st it rises an hour and a half before sunrise but it draws rapidly in towards the Sun being at superior conjunction on the 15th after which it becomes an evening star.

The planet will pass about two Moon diameters north of the 1st magnitude star Regulus in Leo on the 2nd/3rd. After conjunction it will remain unobservable, low in the western sky, until mid-November when it begins another favourable reappearance in the morning sky.

Venus is a -3.9 evening object but remains low in the west throughout the month, setting less than an hour after the Sun. It will begin to draw away from the Sun during October, setting four hours after the Sun by the end of the year. Over Christmas and the New Year Venus will be a brilliant -4.1 magnitude evening star, lingering in the south-western sky well into the evening.

Mars brightens to 0.5 magnitude during September as it approaches opposition on Jan-

uary 5 1993. Situated in the constellation Gemini it rises by 22h by the 30th. The last quarter Moon passes just to the south on the 20th/21st. Jupiter moves from Leo into Virgo during the month but it will not be observable, being in conjunction with the Sun on the 17th. It then becomes a morning star.

Saturn is in Capricornus, a 0.5 magnitude yellowish-white object located in an area of sky devoid of bright stars, so it is easily identified. Even a small telescope or powerful binoculars will just show the rings and the brightest satellite Titan.

The gibbous Moon passes to the north on the 8th/9th. Saturn passed opposition in early August so it is now an evening star. It reaches a maximum elevation above the southern horizon of about 20 degrees and set by 01h late in the month.

Uranus and Neptune remain close together in Sagittarius, setting by 22h 30m late in the month. Uranus reaches a stationary point on the 23rd, after which they resume their slow eastward motion against the stars. The Moon passes to the north on the 6th.

The Moon: first quarter, 3d 23h; full Moon, 12d 02h; last quarter, 19d 20h; new Moon,



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. As places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich time at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

26d 11h. The Earth's annual motion round the Sun is reflected in the Sun's apparent motion eastwards round the sky, giving us

the annual procession of constellations and the seasons. The autumn equinox, when the Sun crosses the equator from north to south, occurs

22d 19h. Sunset on the 1st is at 18h 50m and on the 30th at 17h 40m while sunrise is at 05h 10m and 06h 00m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 21h 00m early and late in the month and begins against at 03h 00m and 04h 05m.

Algol, the eclipsing binary star in Perseus, fades from its usual brightness of 2.1 to 3.4 magnitude every 69 hours. It can be seen when near its faintest this month about the following times: 16d 02h, 18d 23h and 21d 20h.

The full Moon closest to the autumn equinox is called the Harvest Moon, so with the interval between successive full Moons being almost 30 days, it can occur about two weeks before or after the equinox. This can carry the Harvest Moon into October in some years but this year, with full Moon on the 12th, it is in September and the next full Moon in October is the Hunter's Moon.

At this time of the year, the Moon moves northwards throughout the part of the lunation from first quarter to last quarter, so that each night it travels a larger arc above the horizon.

This northwards motion causes the Moon to rise farther round towards the north-east each night after full Moon

and this largely offsets the effect of the general eastwards motion of the Moon which causes it to rise later each evening.

In the late summer and autumn months the Moon, from a day or two before the full to last quarter phases, rises only a little later each evening. This gives rise to a succession of evenings lasting about a week when the Moon hangs low in the eastern sky soon after dark, allowing outdoor activities to continue and giving rise to the terms Harvest and Hunter's Moons.

In the past when outdoor lighting in the countryside was almost non-existent, work outside would have had to stop at dusk and the Harvest Moon must have been of great benefit.

The great developments in artificial lighting have reduced the importance of moonlight over much of the world but at the same time has made it difficult for many to see the night sky at all.

It is now being realised that more efficient lighting, directed towards where it is needed rather than wastefully in all directions, will be cheaper to run and should eventually help slow or even reverse the trend towards brighter and brighter night skies.

August 27 ON THIS DAY 1946

The pressure for the extension of a "closed shop" in several areas of industrial life — and even in some professional circles — was much in evidence in the years after the second world war and in this instance the old London Passenger Transport Board decided to fall into line.

"CLOSED SHOP" FOR L.P.T.B.

The London Passenger Transport Board has decided not to continue in its service any employees in grades covered by its agreements with the Transport and General Workers' Union who is not a member of that union.

This decision reached after a long meeting yesterday evening between representatives of the board and the executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union in the grades concerned will have to choose between dismissal and joining the Transport and General Workers' Union. The National Passenger Workers' Union claims to have several thousand members in the employment of the board.

The decision, which brings to an end a dispute which has been going on since 1937, involves a matter of major principle — whether the closed shop should be a part of the policy of public cooperation — and is certain to cause some controversy. The board has issued a long statement explaining its reasons.

The statement says that from 1933 the Board made all its agreements and conducted all negotiations in respect of the operating and maintenance staffs of its road services with the Transport and General Workers' Union, and these agreements applied without exception to each and every employee in the grades concerned. In 1938 the National Passenger Workers' Union was formed, and some of the Board's employees became members of it. The

Board did not recognize it, or enter into any agreement with it. The Transport and General Workers' Union, who represent an overwhelming majority of their employees, had not informed them that they would not work with employees who were not members of their union.

"The Board," continues the statement, "has decided that the existing unsatisfactory situation which, by seriously hampering the Board in its efforts to provide an efficient transport service, is prejudicial to the public, must be brought to an end."

It is recognized by the general executive council of the Transport and General Workers' Union that it is essential to the fulfilment of the Board's duties to the public that the Board should be able to rely upon the observance of collective agreements and the full cooperation of the staff.

"Upon this basis, and on the understanding that an opportunity will be given to all non-members of the Transport and General Workers' Union to join that union, the board has decided not to continue in their service any employee in the grades concerned who is unwilling to join the Transport and General Workers' Union."

It is added that the arrangement whereby certain drivers and conductors have been going on since 1937, involves a matter of major principle — whether the closed shop should be a part of the policy of public cooperation — and is certain to cause some controversy. The board has issued a long statement explaining its reasons.



## Continued from page 1

The research is published in the current issue of the quarterly *Housing Finance*, the economics journal of the Council of Mortgage Lenders. Sue Anderson, of the council, said: "People will continue to buy partly for other reasons other than financial. It is generally considered more secure and is something that people in Britain like to do. It would be interesting to work out what

PHYSICS LETTERS A

the figures would be if you compared buying with renting after five or seven years.

□ Fewer people would be made homeless if councils were told when mortgage lenders were planning to re-

possess homes in their area, according to the London Research Centre, which says in a report today that nine out of ten English local authorities rarely or never receive advance notification.

## Continued from page 1

Mr Major will today try to win the support of all factions for a statement of principles ruling out any change of frontiers except by agreement, and insisting on the protection of all minorities. He is also tabling an action programme which will transfer to Geneva the current EC peace mission, under a successor to Lord Carrington. In conjunction with the UN, the mission will continue negotiations on minorities, human rights, economic issues, recognition of successor states, confidence-building measures and humanitarian aid.

No vote will be taken on the principles of a settlement. But

The conference quickly became mired in arguments over seating and status. Mr Karadzic angrily objected to his exclusion from the plenary session, along with the communal leaders from minorities in all other republics. He staged a walkout from the hall, but soon returned.

**Major warning, page 10**  
**Martin Ivens and**  
**Diary, page 12**

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

UNITED NATIONS  
Boutros Boutros Ghali

UNITED KINGDOM  
Douglas Hurd

UNITED KINGDOM  
John Major

UNITED NATIONS  
Cyrus Vance

GARY  
LAND  
ITALY  
PAN  
BURG  
DSDS  
OW  
AL  
IA

SLOVENIA  
CROATIA  
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA  
SERBIA  
KOSOVO  
MACEDONIA  
MONTENEGRO

SLAVIA  
MACE

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA  
Alija Izetbegovic

SERBIA  
Slobodan Milosevic

CROATIA  
Franjo Tudjman

A 25x25 crossword puzzle grid. The grid consists of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The numbers 1 through 25 are placed in the starting squares of the words, indicating the row and column for each word's beginning. The numbers are distributed as follows: 1 (1,1), 2 (1,2), 3 (1,3), 4 (1,4), 5 (1,5), 6 (1,6), 7 (1,7), 8 (1,8), 9 (1,9), 10 (2,1), 11 (2,3), 12 (2,7), 13 (3,1), 14 (3,5), 15 (3,9), 16 (3,13), 17 (3,14), 18 (3,18), 19 (3,19), 20 (3,21), 21 (3,22), 22 (3,23), 23 (4,1), 24 (4,3), 25 (4,7), and 26 (4,9).

- 7 Disinfectant from almost full bottle applied to tailless vermin (8).
- 9 No turning back the flow of liquid in operation (2,6).
- 10 Plant left undisturbed by land-owners (4).
- 11 Traditional scheme's return added to export profitability (5,7).
- 12 Hard to get caught in a fright (6).
- 14 I got mad with a name (my own obsessions met) (8).
- 15 A range of colours is allowed in paste form (7).
- 16 Look - wet washing! (7).
- 17 Almost nothing free of charge? (8)
- 20 Sovereignty resides in brown emperor (6).
- 23 It's ample (when developed) to en

L I M E R I C K M A S T I C  
 I A E H O I W  
 V I C E G M A D E R L A I  
 E E L F E E N C  
 R A C I A T E D R O C E R  
 Y O I I S  
 C I A M A N T E S P E N T  
 S N O N O  
 T R E W S T I T A N I U M  
 U C A I O  
 D I S T U R B S U P P E R  
 F R E E R E N A  
 A C R O P I N T H R O C E A N  
 E E E E  
 M A T U R E B E I N G

25 Flag of Eire—that's not hard (4).  
26 Here are two of the Roman  
persuasion, DV (8).  
27 Odds on fishes having what look  
like glittering scales? (8).

**DOWN**

2 A way of running spy network that dispenses with locks? (8)

3 Agile brute takes on the Great Stone Face (6.6).

- 5 Company tries for an audience, and works together well (7).
- 6 It may be necessary when visiting Lisbon (6).
- 7 Really fit (4).
- 8 Girl coming in before time, not having pound for the messenger (3).

- 12 Straightforward trips by sand-yacht? (5.7).
- 15 Prince comes in to affix medal for sport (4-4).
- 17 Mechanical actors in RUR? (8).
- 18 *Materiel* has been ordered, as it happens (4.4).
- 19 Have groups of cowboys Sheriff at the front? (7).

**21** The papers here need looking at within a year (2-4).  
**24** Pub lacks leadership — needs mine host (4).

---

**Concise Crossword, page 13**

**Concise Crossword, page 13**  
**Life & Times section**

**A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?**

**RECEPTARY**  
a. A Catholic collection box  
b. An unimproved fact or postulate  
c. A Byzantine hall porter

**FURFURACEOUS**  
a. Furred  
b. Kleptomaniacal  
c. Covered with dandruff

**QUAKEBUTTOCK**  
a. A coward  
b. A quicksand  
c. A sweet Lancashire jelly

**ESQUAMATE**  
a. To decamp or elope  
b. A common law Eskimo spouse  
c. Having no scales

**TIME WEATHER**

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Rom, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hampshire & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wiltshire, Gloucester, Hereford	705
Bucks, Bucks, Oxon.	706
Herts, Bedford & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam. & Gwent.	709
Shrop, Hereford & Worcs	710
Derby, Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & England	715
W. England	716
S.W. Yorks & Dalos.	717
N. England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
E. Scotland	720
Central Scotland	721
Edin & Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N.W. Scotland	725
Highland, Orkney & Shetland	726
N. Ireland	727

minutes (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

England and Wales at first. Showers will spread south, reaching northern England and north Wales around midday and central England and south Wales later. The South East will start cloudy and dry, with rain becoming heavy in places later. Southwesterly winds will be strong to gale-force. Outlook: unsettled with rain or showers.

[illegible]

Temperatures at midday yesterday:		C		F	
Tuesday: Highest day temp:	Margate, Kent	24	75	Guernsey	17
lowest day max:	Cape Wrath	5	41	Inverness	15
Highest, 12C (54F):	highest rainfall:	Three			
Strathclyde, 1.4in:	highest sunshine:	Uxbridge, 1.4in			
Uxbridge, 1.4in					

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

**London & SE**

C. London (within N & S Circs) ..... 731  
 M-ways/roads A44-M4 ..... 732  
 M-ways/roads M1, Dartford ..... 733  
 M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23 ..... 734  
 M-ways/roads M23-M4 ..... 735  
 M25 London Orbital only ..... 736

**National**

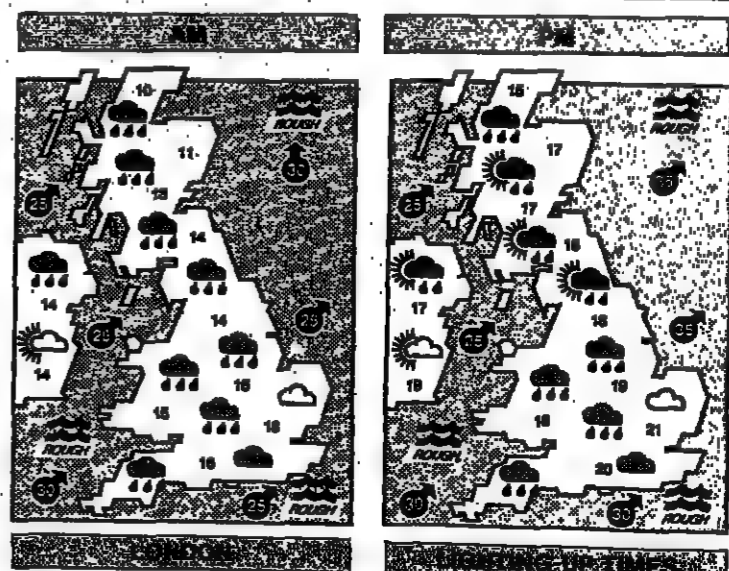
National Motorways ..... 737  
 West Country ..... 738  
 Midlands ..... 739  
 Scotland ..... 740  
 East Angles ..... 741  
 North-west England ..... 742  
 South-east England ..... 743  
 Scotland ..... 744  
 Northern Ireland ..... 745

**Europe**

Bank, Shyba ..... Bank, Shyba  
 Australia & ..... 2.85 ..... 2.85  
 Austria & ..... 20.70 ..... 20.70  
 Belgium Fr ..... 60.50 ..... 56.10  
 Canada \$ ..... 2.47 ..... 2.31  
 Denmark ..... 11.38 ..... 11.38  
 Finland Mk ..... 8.22 ..... 7.82  
 France Fr ..... 9.37 ..... 9.27  
 Germany DM ..... 2.88 ..... 2.88  
 Greece Yr ..... 362.00 ..... 362.00  
 Hong Kong S ..... 15.80 ..... 14.07  
 Ireland P ..... 224.00 ..... 224.00  
 Italy Lira ..... 224.00 ..... 207.00  
 Japan Yen ..... 286.00 ..... 287.00  
 Netherlands Gld ..... 3.51 ..... 3.08  
 Norway Kr ..... 10.52 ..... 10.52  
 Portugal Esc ..... 205.20 ..... 235.50  
 South Africa Rd ..... 6.25 ..... 5.25  
 Spain Ptas ..... 16.00 ..... 175.00  
 Sweden Kr ..... 10.81 ..... 10.01  
 Switzerland Fr ..... 2.86 ..... 2.86  
 Turkey Lira ..... 14500.00 ..... 19600.00  
 USA \$ ..... 2.07 ..... 1.97  
 Yugoslav Tena ..... 2.07 ..... 1.97

minutes (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

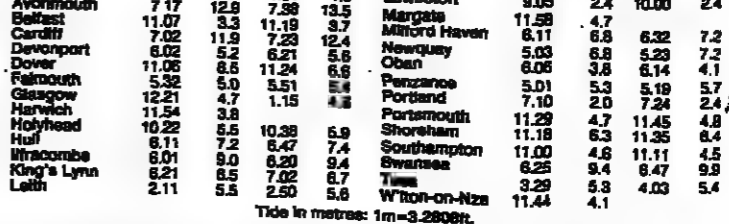
England and Wales at first. In northern England and north-east England and south Wales later. Wind dry, with rain becoming heavy. Winds will be strong to gale-force. Showers.



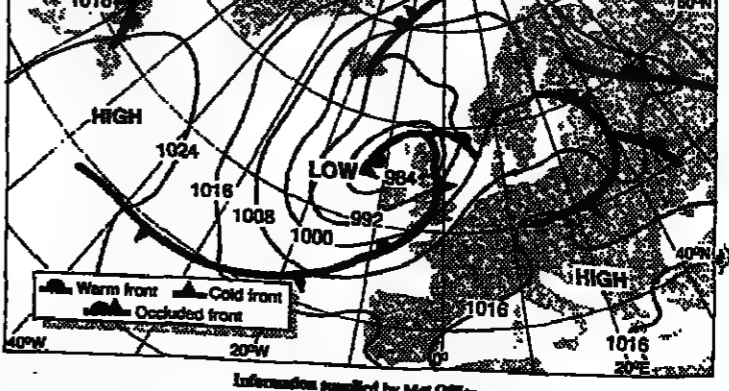
Yesterday: Temp: max 8am to 6pm, 19C (68F); min 6pm to 6am, 15C (59F). Humidity: 6pm, 82 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.01in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1.7hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,001.3 millibars, falling.



	AM	HT	PM	HT		AM	HT	PM	HT
TODAY					TODAY				
London Bridge	1.35	6.9	2.00	7.0	Liverpool	11.19	9.3	11.40	9.8
Aberdeen	12.51	4.3	1.31	4.3					



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هكذا عن الامم





John the 150

Cinema: Geoff Brown on *Juice*, *The Cutting Edge*, *New Directors '92* and *Hitler* — A Film From Germany

# Tired of watching them take the rap

I have a dream. I am watching a film by an exciting new black American director. People have jobs, and presentable clothes: the kids go to school, and can talk in long sentences without using four-letter words. Nobody hangs out on corners, does drugs, touts shotguns or robs the convenience store. Instead of listening to rap, house and hip hop, characters savour something classical: Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, for instance.

The reality is different. I am watching *Juice* (MGM Trocadero, Electric Cinema, Ritzy, 15), the first film directed by Ernest R. Dickerson. Spike Lee's regular cinematographer. For its genre, this is a superior film. The Harlem youths are well portrayed; the rap sounds could get the oldest bones shivering. And it all comes wrapped in a movie violence that is not the smart way to escape the ghetto.

At first Q, Raheem, Steel and Bishop — the four lead characters — commit minor offences. They ignore school; they shoplift; in an exhilarating sequence they give cops the slip, along alleys, through houses, across roofs. Trouble starts when they catch Jimmy Cagney cry "Made it, mal Top of the world!" before he goes up in flames. Impressed by this grand exit, Bishop goes to the others into armed robbery of a grocery store.

From this, all evil flows. The store owner is shot dead. Bishop (played by Tupac Shakur, from the group Digital Underground) spins out of control, and turns his gun on his friends. "You got the juice now, man!" the gang's lone survivor is told at the end; but a freeze frame of his shaking head makes it clear that the "juice" (slang for power and status) has turned sour.

Bishop's descent into a crazed killer starts strangely with the realistic approach of earlier scenes, and smacks of commercial compromise. But the fresh-faced cast rise to the challenge. Omar Epps proves par-

ticularly effective as Q, the group's conscience, an aspiring disc jockey who at least gets as far as opening his school locker. Dickerson drives the story forward even when its logic falters, and keeps the visual texture as rich as the dingy settings allow.

Now we need these talented black directors — the Dickersons, Lees and John Singleton — to escape their own urban ghetto for the black American experience stretches way beyond guns and violence on dismal streets. By dishing out more of the same in film after film Hollywood's black talent stunt their own growth. They also run the risk of fanning fires that need no encouragement. When *Juice* opened in Los Angeles this January, one person died in gang incidents.

Such violence at screenings of *The Cutting Edge* (MGM Haymarket, PG) is most unlikely, unless the audience fights for the exit. Those who like bawling in screen clichés may stay put: this ice-skating tale rounds them up with great diligence. Mo'Nique Kelly (a bright newcomer, seen in *Billy Bathgate*) is the ice queen Kate, a tempestuous brat in need of a partner who can stay the course. Enter D.B. Sweeney, a bumptious hockey player who loses his peripheral vision and reluctantly tries a new line of work. The pair fight endlessly; they fall in love; they also enter the 1992 Winter Olympics in France.

Clearly, there is a lot here to swallow. Director Paul Michael Glaser — once one-half of *Starsky and Hutch* — keeps the cameras swivelling at high speed, but still cannot hide the false shots of skating stand-ins. (Robin Cousins served as technical adviser and choreographer.) We must also accept that a beefy figure-skating novice can reach Olympic standards of skill and elegance in just a few months. Still, there are crumbles of comfort. Kelly and Sweeney perform their daffy charade with spirit; and Roy Dotrice, with combed grammar and a juicy accent, is Anton

Parmchenko, legendary coach from the Ukraine. "Always iss komink ze big B — vot a bitch!" he cries, pondering his star pupil's misdemeanours. You have to smile.



Before he himself spins out of control: Bishop (Tupac Shakur, centre) faces the threat of violence on the street in *Juice*

video. They know what a good film is, even if they cannot quite make one themselves.

I wake up. I am watching *New Directors '92* (Metro, for one week), the fourth annual showcase of six new shorts, all made for £30,000 or less. One at least breaks clear of the rut: Mark Nash's haunting *Between Two Worlds*. Nash teaches film and has written a book on Carl Dreyer, one of cinema's most ascetic directors. Unsurprisingly, there is no camera frenzy. The crisp, quiet images, delicately interwoven with home movie footage, take us to the heart of the matter: the strange emotional bond between a homosexual and his Czech émigré analyst.

The other bright spot is *Capoeira Quickstep*. Gillian Lacey and Roberto Mader's entertaining blend of fiction and documentary whisks us through the history of the Brazilian dance — first developed by African slaves brought to Brazil by the Portuguese, and now undergoing mutation in Britain.

Elsewhere, the going is tough. Danny Thompson's black comedy *Public Enemy/Private Friends*, while lively enough, lacks all visual sense. Sonali Fernando's tower-block tale *Shakti* can at least be marked down as a brave failure, but Cheryl Farthing's lesbian reverie *Rosebud* is abominably arch. When short films disappoint, why

not try something long? Hans Jürgen Syberberg's *Hitler — A Film From Germany*, completed in 1977, lasts seven hours and 17 minutes. The Edinburgh Film Festival got through this rarely screened epic on Tuesday; on September 4, the ICA Cinema brings it to London for two weeks. Syberberg shoots in his tableau style: the camera immobile, the actors in the studio before projected backgrounds and archive footage. Through vignettes and monologues packaged into 22 "chapters", Syberberg delves deep into Hitler's grip on the world's psyche. No soft option, for sure, the film demands attention, and has no equal in cinema history.

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## ARTS BRIEF

### Cardiff calling

ATTENTION may be focused on the Scottish capital this month, but come September 17 the Welsh capital weighs in with a festival that could give Edinburgh a run for its money. The three-week Cardiff Festival will combine concerts, theatre productions and art exhibitions. Welsh National Opera's new productions — including *Elektra* and *Tosca* — are to play alongside Music Theatre Wales's world premiere of a new opera, *Ubu*, composed by Andrew Toovey. The festival will host several foreign orchestras: the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Budapest Symphony and, on a first visit to Britain, the Belgrade String Orchestra. German Voices, a collection of German theatrical talent, will feature the Cologne-based dance theatre company Leibliches Theater. Literary events include readings by Benjamin Zephaniah and a science fiction convention.

### New broad

BROADWAY gets an unlikely opening on October 29 when London's long-running thriller, *The Woman in Black*, has its premiere at the Music Box Theatre. Aside from rare exceptions such as *Slush*, thrillers traditionally fare badly in New York. The Music Box's previous tenant was also British: a production of Alan Ayckbourn's play, *A Small Family Business*, which closed prematurely.

### Last chance...

JUST when ideas for political plays were thinning, the Berlin Wall came down and opened up new territory for dramatists. Roy MacGregor's *Phoenix* is one of the better results, bringing a former terrorist back from East Germany to meet her jazz trumpet father and joining her story with that of a former colleague turned respectable. The pace and acting generate real excitement in this production, which closes on Saturday at the Bush (081-743 3388).

## GALLERIES: CHELTENHAM

### Cotswolds echoes of a crafty generation

John Russell Taylor on a show celebrating local figures in the Arts and Crafts movement at the beginning of this century

During the early Eighties there was a classic series of shows in Birmingham concerning the major figures of the local Arts and Crafts movement, people such as Southall and the Gaskins, none of whom had been up to that time properly documented or evaluated. A change of location for George Breeze, now chief art gallery and museums officer in Cheltenham, seemed to bring the Birmingham series to an end, but happily started another series, concerned with the Cotswold hothed of Arts and Crafts geographically and emotionally close to Cheltenham.

The first of these was devoted to C.R. Ashbee, and the effects of his transplanting his Guild of Handicraft from the east end of London to Chipping Campden. The new show, rejoicing in the wonderfully period title *Good Workmanship with Happy Thought*, concerns the work of two lesser lights, Alfred and Louise Powell. The Cotswold connection with Alfred is admittedly tenuous: he was early on in the same architect's office as Ernest Gimson and Ernest Barnsley, both subse-

quently important figures in the heyday of Cotswold Arts and Crafts furniture, and one of his brothers subsequently worked with Barnsley (while another studied bookbinding under Douglas Cockerell). From 1901 the Powells worked in the area after building themselves a house at Tunley, in particular turning their talents to painting furniture by Gimson, Barnsley and others.

All these craftsmen subscribed to the same sort of uplifting moral view of craftsmanship, and were tightly bound together, whichever guild they belonged to, by close links of friendship and marriage. In a sense the Powells carried this Morris-derived ethos a stage further, in that they did not share some of the more fanatical craftsmen's blanket disapproval of industry.

Alfred continued to practice architecture, in a very craftsmanlike way, feeling that he had to be able to do all the individual handicraft jobs himself and function as master-of-works. But Louise (originally Lessore, and sister of Sicker's wife) had trained in calligraphy, under Edward

Johnston, and in embroidery. Her grandest work was the completion of Morris's calligraphy for his own illuminated manuscript of the *Aeneid*, left unfinished at his death. And naturally with this background she was more open to the idea of decoration for pottery than perhaps her husband was. Even for commercially produced pottery.

Admittedly Wedgwood was widely regarded as a special case, an industry run along properly art-conscious lines. And what the Powells were able to do, from 1904 on, was to reintroduce the idea of hand-painting in the Pottery, where for some time it had been widely dismissed in favour of transfer printing and modern technology. Alfred was approached through W.R. Lethaby at the Central School; Wedgwood wanted someone who could design in the then fashionable Art Nouveau style, of which Lethaby strongly disapproved. But after a reassuring visit to Eturia Alfred was recommended, and before long both the Powells were working on pottery design and decoration. Alfred, indeed, was still painting



Strongly personal: plant pot by Alfred Powell, 1927

pois when 90 years old.

Much of this show is devoted to their ceramic work, for Wedgwood and others, which is strongly personal and so independent of current fashions and fads that it would be very difficult indeed to date. There is also one particularly splendid example of their furniture-painting, an ebony and satinwood cabinet of c.1925 painted by Louise; some documentation of Alfred's architectural work, including a perspective rendering by him of an astonishing competition design by Gimson for, apparently, the whole of Canberra; and many odds and ends of

the metalwork, calligraphy and such which were a normal part of the all-round craftsman's repertoire.

Some of it is routine, though with more than its complement of period charm. But the ceramic work is remarkable for what it represents in the marriage of craft and industry, as well as on its own account just as design. It is good to have another piece of the great Arts and Crafts jigsaw puzzle so devotedly filled in.

Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (0242 250019) Mon-Sat 10am-5.20pm, Sun 2-5.20pm, until September 5

## PROMS PREVIEW

### Setting a table in perfect taste

Simon Tait meets Tafelmusik, a Canadian group in Europe for a tour including a Prom

music has been under the leadership of Jeanne Lamont, the first violin who doubles as musical director, since 1981; Lamont took over after a gentle push by the board, taking control from the founders. Lamont, along with managing director Otis Lockey, have brought Tafelmusik to a prominence rare for a North American chamber orchestra. Between them, and through Tafelmusik's beguiling performances at its base, Trinity St Paul's United Church in Toronto — which has a fine acoustic but still has to be cleared for Sunday services — Lamont and Lockey have so far won two successive contracts with Sony Classical. And recording plans are going far beyond the end of the current one in 1994.

The secret has been having a core of players who play for no other baroque group, so that they are probably the only

early music ensemble which has a recognisable sound of its own," says Lamont. "There are seven or eight musicians who have been with us as long as I have. We also rehearse hard and are not afraid to strain musicians' egos to get something right."

There are rumours that Sony wants Tafelmusik to record all the Haydn symphonies. They have already released six CDs of Mozart, Gluck, Geminiani and four flute concertos, with one of Vivaldi and two of Haydn to come in October. The recording session after the Prom is to

be of Boccherini and the four Mozart horn concertos with the Dutch horn player Ab Koster. The partnership with Sony has also meant another unusual element for a chamber orchestra, a principal guest conductor, who is Bruno Weil. Tafelmusik's success is in contrast to the fortunes of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The TSO has no recording contract, no tours planned and debts of \$3.7 million. It has only just avoided bankruptcy and closure thanks largely to its new managing director, Max Tapper, who got the 120 players to agree to a 15-per cent pay reduction in a three-year deal.

Tafelmusik believes the contrast in their fortunes reflects changes in audience taste. "Like publishing, where 20 years ago everybody in North America subscribed to *Life* magazine and now there are 100 magazines covering the

area, the public is not satisfied with one large symphony orchestra's repertoire," says Lamont. "It wants specialists, and to be able to turn to an ensemble like ours."

Lockey adds: "Our audience has to feel it has access to us, and there can be something forbidding about a very large symphony orchestra. We have a core of 16 players and we can expand to as many as we like if we need to, so that we have a flexibility to adapt to any requirement and that's part of the secret of our success."

Tuesday's programme has Handel, Biber, Telemann, Vivaldi and Boccherini in it, not a typical Tafelmusik concert. "John Drummond, the director of the Proms, wanted a sampler from us, so it's a bit of a mish-mash," Lamont says. "He specifically didn't want Boccherini, but since we've got it in anyway, for us, the Prom is the high point of what we've done so far."

Tafelmusik is at the Albert Hall 071-823 9998, Tuesday, 10pm.

## TELEVISION REVIEW

### Neither gone nor forgotten

The function of the television "mini-series" is still a bit of a mystery to me. Why does downmarket television drama have to be digested on consecutive nights? Is it something to do with the obscure science of advertising and target audiences?

Or is it because the average viewer is now considered too impatient to stay the majestic eight-week course of an *I, Claudius* or *Brideshead Revisited*? I think we should be told.

Perhaps the secret agenda of the mini-series is to replace the novel as an imaginative experience, to be consumed at two or three sittings in the comfort of your own home. This week's 1920s courtroom drama *Cross of Fire* (BBC 1, Tuesday and last night) seemed to be muscling in on the territory of E.L. Doctorow's historical novels, which have explored the culture, racism and disorder of ragtime America to brilliant effect. Not surprisingly, the mini-series suffered by comparison.

If nothing else, the murder trial of Ku Klux Klan leader D.C. Stephenson, tipped as presidential candidate for 1928 before his spectacular fall from grace, was compelling subject matter, a strange insight into a time when the Democratic Party was a KKK stronghold.

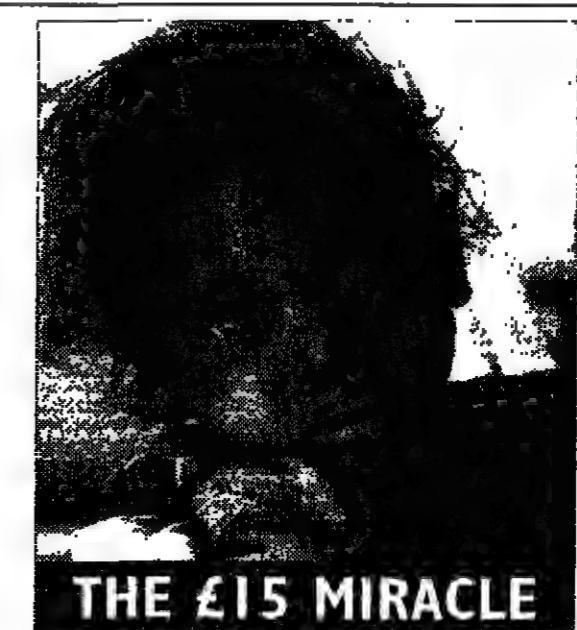
In those days, the Klan was trying to shed its redneck image. The idea was to sell itself as benign protector of "intensified Americanism", funding welfare services and schools, rather than as the old-fashioned oppressor of blacks, dashing about the night in pointy-headed costumes.

The rich and charismatic Stephenson was the lynchpin of the transformation, bringing the Klan to the brink of respectability and raising its membership to six million. But, by a macabre twist of fate, the world was spared the odium of a Ku Klux Klan president by Stephenson's murder of Madge Oberholzer, a liberal teacher who had rejected his sexual advances. Disowned even by his own lynch-mobs, he served 31 years in jail, before being sent down again for assaulting a 16-year-old.

In spite of some well-known newsreel footage showing thousands of Klansmen marching on Washington in their robes, *Cross of Fire* never quite pulled it off. Stephenson, promoted to Grand Dragon, became suitably wild-eyed and boozey as plot thickened and evil rose implacably to the surface.

But there was little sense of the Klan's true menace, even in the courtroom scenes in which wily old Lloyd Bridges for the defence battled it out with the late Madge's wimpish boyfriend, a youthful prosecuting attorney desperate to prove himself. It all seemed a bit breezy: was the court supposed to be settling the future of America or just a "domestic" turned nasty? What was lacking in this dour melodrama was a sense of historic immediacy. Look how bad America used to be, it said. Yet the Klan's formula of religious fundamentalism, bigotry and populist politics is still a shamelessly successful one, which — as former grand wizard David Duke's bid for the governorship of Louisiana last year showed — continues to haunt the mainstream. Purple robes, burning crosses and reptilian tales may belong to the realm of the absurd; but talk of Christian "family values" and white versus black remains common coin in modern American politics.

MATTHEW D'ANCONA



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# Legends, image and icons

As France considers European unity, Charles Bremner reviews the country's love/hate affair with America in the last of our summer celebration of France



FROM HIS Cole Hahn shoes to his cowlick hair wave, Yves Loiseau, a young banker, looks like a cross between James Dean and a Ralph Lauren advert as he slots the key into his black Harley Davidson on the Boulevard Saint Germain. The tell-tale explosions of the Harley attract envious glances from a gaggle of people sitting nearby at the café Flor. "Cool," exclaims a young woman. "Five oh-ones," says her companion knowingly. The classic 501 Levi has been compulsory wear for the past couple of years for the casually correct of the Continent.

Watching that scene shortly after moving to Paris from New York last month hammered home the feeling that I had passed through a looking-glass into a surreal version of America, a land obsessed with imitating its icons and images yet possessing little in common. America may view itself as an atrophying giant collapsing into economic malaise and racial

**The Socialist Party has covered France with pro-Maastricht posters showing Uncle Sam sitting on top of the world**

strife, but for the French it still serves as the source of legend and dreams. Its power, freedom and violence also clearly terrify the French who, more than any Western country, seem to see *l'Amérique* as the source of extreme bounty and also of evil. When Jacques Brel sang his French hit "Madelaine", the highest praise to the girl was to call her "Mon Amérique". If you want to put down something as far from wonderful, you still say: "Ce n'est pas l'Amérique."

The love affair between Paris and the Anglo-Saxons of the New World has been going on for well over two centuries, ever since heavy French aid helped the American colonists beat the British army and the founding fathers took their constitutional ideas of separation of power from Charles-Louis Montesquieu. The reverence has never been stronger than in 1992, the year in which Jack Lang, the socialist culture minister who waged war a decade ago against the "cultural imperialism" of Dallas, invested Sylvester Stallone with the Légion d'honneur.

Mr Lang's enthusiasm for American culture also includes rap music and the graffiti which has erupted all over the Métro as it did in New York in the 1970s. The minister and his intellectual friends still look down their noses at Disneyland and the American soap operas such as *Santa Barbara*, the number one French television drama, but they keep up with every pop trend in their favourite newspapers. *Le Monde*, for example, devoted a front-page eulogy to Prince the other day, the same week as almost every newspaper devoted front page critiques to the high art of *Batman Returns*.

America is everywhere in Paris, from the Tex-Mex restaurants to *les frozen yoghurts* and *le popcorn* in the



An American in Paris: the mutual admiration society between the French and Americans has been going on for more than two centuries

supermarkets to the Far Western boutiques and the Shaker furniture of the big department stores.

Turn on the radio and you will hear endless learned discussion of such things as the history of the *bluejean*. What film do French university students most admire this year? *Basic Instinct*, according to a recent poll.

The French fascination with America is driven by distance. The mentality and language are so far removed from the American that inconvenient realities are lost in translation or simply filtered out.

Some differences are obvious, such as the stiff formality compared with the breezy friendliness of Americans. Daily life is a fight with bureaucratic obstruction after the can-do consumer culture of America, but it is also far slower and gentler. France is unaffected by the defensive political correctness which has invaded American life. After American hypersensitivity to gender, French men's condescending treatment of women is surprising, as are all the young people you see smoking.

The America that France imagines has only a passing resemblance to the country once colonised by France on the other side of the Atlantic. But the real United States are far enough away to allow the French to cherish a dream. The "jeunes blacks" with their graffiti cans in the Métro and the "rappeurs" beloved of the *haute couture* shows, are a gentle and elegant bunch, bearing about the same relation to the menacing US article as Johnny Hallyday has to real rock'n'roll.

Ask any Frenchman who really knows America. Michel Serres, a

university professor who taught for many years in America, says he is alarmed by the way the French media and government figures "cultivate and exalt the image of an America which has nothing to do with the country where I have been working for a quarter of a century. This image serves as a paradisiac reference to enable them better to indulge that so strange and devastating French passion: putting down their own country."

**A**nalyzing the obsession has become something of a cottage industry, with the opening of Euro Disney, the collapse of communism and a diplomatic spat between Washington and Paris mainly over trade and European defence.

Bernard Pivot, the journalist who long presided over *Apostrophes*, the hugely popular literary programme, says France reverses a "nostalgic, creative, funny, musical" America. "France has created its own false culture that is more American than the real one," he said recently. This was just like the way, in 18th century Europe, admiring foreign countries tried to be more French than the French.

For the vision of what young France sees in America you have to go to the Trading Post, the flagship store of Charles Cheignon, the French company which has made millions by plundering the uniforms and styles of post-war America and caricaturing them for a line of false retro fashions.

Cheignon's aviator jackets and leathersuits hark back to a never-was America of heroes, baseball and

juke-boxes, the effect only slightly marred by strange-sounding authentic lettering such as "The top people prefer Cheignon, makes this legendary known."

Guy Arrouy, the young designer who invented Cheignon told the *Washington Post* that he appreciated America more than Americans. "The force of the American heritage is in these years — you don't understand it, I don't know why." In case that is not clear, he explained the attraction to a French magazine last month saying in French: "C'est une world community. Les Jeunes veulent avoir le truc (thing) 'be cool', le coté 'fresh and juicy'."

Of course the mythology works just as easily in reverse. America is still demonised by many in France to a way that seems positively nostalgic for the days when Marxist intellectuals and Gaullist businessmen could blame the Yanks for everything.

The ruling Socialist Party, for example, reaching back to all those old Left Bank views of Yankee power has covered France with pro-Maastricht posters this month which show a caricature of Uncle Sam sitting on top of the world with a Japanese villain. Only by voting yes in the Maastricht referendum next month, will France be able to combat the American trade ogre, says the message. The American Embassy has already complained. President Mitterrand virtually defines himself by his haughty disdain for America and everything it is about, an attitude that has not prevented him falling in behind Washington every time it has counted, such as the Gulf war.

Nothing could better demonstrate the paradoxical attitude than those

quotas, unique in Europe, which oblige French television and radio to keep non-European, in other words US, material below a tight minimum. The TF-1 network was fined £3.3 million by the state broadcasting authority this month for breaking the quota.

For all the apparent love of America, sociologists in France are discovering what those in other countries have also been noting: that the aping of American fashions, the love of Hollywood and pop culture does not translate into a desire to be American, but rather the opposite. A recent survey of teenagers, for example, showed they believed the real America to be a dangerous place full of drugs and poor, an image delivered by the TV news. The failure of Euro Disney to attract enough French visitors has illustrated, if nothing else, the ambivalence that many feel when confronted with what might be called "real" America.

And among the middle and upper French classes, you still hear the old sense of superiority to what is believed to be the naivety of "les Amériques". America is just "too simple" for the French, *l'Express* magazine said the other day, in all seriousness. The French, a sceptical old culture, are "totally amazed by people who wave little flags, invoke the Lord's name and summarise the history of the world as a struggle between the devil and the Lord."

The feeling is well reciprocated on the other side. Americans, easily intimidated by French attitude, are quick to praise them as charming and stylish, but they regularly rate them near the bottom for friendliness and hospitality.

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This renovated 19th century manor house in six acres of park and woodland, at the edge of a pretty village, nearby the River Somme, in Picardy, is a bargain at £90,000 (including agency fees). It is 30 minutes drive from the city of Amiens, an hour from EuroDisney and within easy reach of Boulogne.

The property is in good condition, with new plumbing and wiring, but needs some redecoration. It has two large reception rooms with marble fireplaces and oak-panelled walls, fitted kitchen and laundry room, a breakfast room with Italian tiled floor, as well as a games room, playroom, study and bathroom on the ground floor. There are five bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs; a large convertible attic above and wine cellars below; plus several outbuildings, a garage and a large barn. UK agent: Barbers, 427-429 North End Road, Fulham, London SW6 (071-381 0112).



Also on offer at £90,000 (excluding notary fees) is this restored "Charentaise" house, with a courtyard and an acre of garden, set amid vineyards, in Cognac country, near the village of Rouillac, a few miles north east of Angoulême in the Charente. Csern (Quisteham) is about five hours drive away.

The old stone-built farmhouse has been sympathetically restored by a couple of English artists, retaining many original features, including flagstone and oak floors, huge fireplaces, exposed beams and internal stonework. It has three reception rooms, a study, modernised kitchen and cloakroom at ground level, five bedrooms and two bathrooms on the first floor; plus wine cellars. The price includes an attached barn, an artist's studio and several outbuildings, with potential for four or five gîtes. UK agent: French Property Shop, Wadhurst Road, Mark Cross, East Sussex (0892 852449).



Further south, under Mediterranean skies, this "maison de maître", between Castelnau and Villefranche-de-Lauragais in the Aude Valley, is for sale at £103,000 (including agency and notary fees), through agents Sifex, Phoenix House, 86 Fulham High Street, London SW6 (071-384 1200).

Set in an acre of lawn garden, surrounded by rolling hills, it is situated near the little village of Salles-sur-1-Hers, where there is a large lake and a beach. The airport at Toulouse is 45 minutes drive away, and Narbonne can be reached in an hour.

The old character building has been restored inside and out. It has a large entrance hall, three reception rooms with french windows leading to the garden, a kitchen with wood-burning stove and a wine cellar. A wide sweeping wooden staircase leads to the first floor, with three bedrooms, a Victorian-style bathroom and two rooms which would convert to extra bedrooms. Traditional features include exposed stone walls, open fireplaces, beamed ceilings and terracotta-tiled floors. There is also a self-contained two bedroomed apartment, stables and barn.

CHERYL TAYLOR

## ESSENTIAL FRENCH: LA PUB

### Punchlines for sale

slogans are condensed novels. Conversely, successful novels are long-winded slogans.

**Stereotypes**  
*Vous qui enviez tant celles des Brésiliennes, les plus belles fesses du monde, des fesses de rêve ne passez plus votre été à vous lamenter en vain.* "You who envy so much of Brazilian women, the most beautiful buttocks in the world, dream buttocks, need no longer spend your summer in vain lament!" (Up Lift Fessiers).

Britain at least has its traditions to fall back on: the Rover 800 "renoue avec la grande tradition de la calendrier" — harks back to the great tradition of the radiator grille.

**Imperatives**  
*Hautes les seins!* — Breasts up!

(on the model of *Hautes les mains!* — Hands up, usually delivered by bank robbers). *Plat le ventre!* — Tummy flat! *Sculptées les hanches!* — Hips sculpted!

**Neologisms**  
*Verbs: Rowentez-vous la vie* — Let Rowenta into your life. *Adjectives: C'est tellement Orangina* — That is so Orangina! *Quand on est bière, on est très Mutzig* — When you are beer, you are very Mutzig.

**Paradoxes**  
*Même mouillés, ils sont secs* — Even when they're wet, they're dry (Ultra Pampers). *Quand y'en a plus, y'en a encore* — When there's none left, there's still more. (Palmolive).

**Puns**  
*Ca c'est très Ford* — Plays on *Ca c'est très fort*. That's very good. *Pompes funèbres municipales, on n'en revient pas* — Municipal funerals, you'll never get over it! You never come back from them.

**Rhyme and assonance**  
*Kenzo, ça sent beau* — Kenzo smells beautiful. *L'été de tous les thés* — The summer of all teas. *Votre dodo c'est mon dada* — Your bye-byes is my hobby horse (Monsieur Meuble).

**Numerology**  
*Le Cinq* (Renault) has been supreme for so long that other numbers are up against it. *Sacré 205, j'aime ton numéro!* (Peugeot) — Holy 205, I love your number — is a valiant attempt to fight back.

**Theology**  
*Et Kenzo crée l'homme* — And Kenzo creates man. *Dieu a besoin des hommes, mais les hommes ont besoin du Bob slip* — God has need of men, but men have need of Bob Slip underpants.

ANDY MARTIN

## No need to dress out here

### WHEN IN FRANCE

**N**o one could say that our patch of France is dress conscious. The typical gear for a Gascon farmer is an open-necked shirt of uncertain vintage, spacious trousers bunched round the waist and hard-cap boots with rivet studs. And this is for an evening out. The women wear shades of black or grey. Working clothes are blue jeans and sweatshirts, for both sexes.

The English soon fall into the routine, divesting themselves of socks and ties and other sartorial impediments to settle for the beachcomber style of casual wear. If they don't merge entirely into the background it is because the men have an urge to wear shorts, invariably affording huge mirth to the French who rarely reveal their lower limbs. The Dutch, the only nationality to outpace the English in their eagerness to set up home in Gascony, share the tendency to display the knees but they wear shorts with a crease. The Dutch are the only people here ever to iron their clothes.

Every now and then a besuited Frenchman appears. The last one to enter our lives came to sell us a fax machine. We could tell immediately he was from a big town, Bordeaux or Toulouse, by the delicate way he stepped from his car to avoid the puddle caused by a recent downpour. His lightly-checked jacket and dark tie, closely knotted, was set off by a shirt of pristine white. Clearly he was a man of authority. We bought the instrument he recommended without asking the price.

Our fax salesman was a reminder of the amazing switch in style from rural to urban Gascony. Bordeaux and Toulouse are just an hour and a bit from here by motor route. They could be a thousand miles away for all the

affinity they have with their surrounding countryside.

The first time I went to Toulouse I didn't think to dress up for the occasion. It was not long before I realised the enormity of my *faux pas*. The long looks of derision from passers-by said it all.

City style is, somewhat surprisingly, much influenced by British fashion. Marks & Spencer, Burton and Body Shop occupy prime sites. Linguistic ambiguities are rare. There is a sportswear shop, one of a chain, which calls itself *Athlète's Foot*.

The country Gascons are deeply attached to a way of life that can be frustratingly anarchic. It is only ten years since they gave up using oxen to do heavy work on farms. And, on the domestic front, it is still

rare to find a kitchen that boasts an electric kettle. But these traditionalists are also enormously tolerant, accepting with calm assurance a wide and weird variety of newcomers into their midst.

For all their cosmopolitan airs, the city types don't really like foreigners. It shows up most obviously in their impatience with anyone who speaks less than perfect French. Service in shops and restaurants is fast and efficient but administered with a cutting edge. After a splendid meal in a Toulouse restaurant I complimented the *maître d'hôtel* with, "Nous avons mangé bien."

He shook his head. "Non, monsieur. Nous avons bien mangé." Maybe I should have been grateful for the tuition. Instead, I thought, hang on, who's paying this bill?

The urban French are happiest in their own company which is why they stay at home and leave yokels to our own plebeian devices.

BARRY TURNER

1501 000 000

# Let us be wed till greed us do part

Before 1753 matrimony was a lottery, as Antonia Fraser learns from the courts which sought to reconcile husbands and wives

John Aubrey, in a felicitous comparison, once likened the historian's craft to "the art of the conjuror". This is because his object is not only to retrieve "forgotten things from oblivion", but also to make "those walk and appear that have been in their graves many hundreds of years".

Lawrence Stone quotes Aubrey in the introduction to his latest study of the family and its vicissitudes in the 17th and 18th centuries as a justification for using case-studies: "If the historian's prime task is to explain change over time, another equally important function is surely to bring the past alive."

But as a matter of fact Aubrey calls attention as much to the personal zest that some historians possess — Aubrey had it himself — as to the value of any particular historical method. (It is this zest which makes Gibbon, for example, or even Froude, still readable today.) Certainly Stone's enthusiasm has carried him and his readers through a lifetime's work, based on archival research which might in other hands turn out to be dry-as-dust, to use the favourite condemnatory term of another "conjuror", Carlyle. For *Uncertain Unions* owes its genesis to study of the Process Books from the records of the Court of Arches in the Lambeth Palace Library. But from this daunting-sounding repository — from the point of view of the general reader at least — emerges a series of startling tales of sexual scandal, sufficiently juicy to feature in any modern tabloid.

Despite their melodramatic content, such case-studies would not however literally feature today, since their basis is the astonishing chaos of the marriage laws in England up to the Hardwicke Act of 1753, as revealed in these ecclesiastical records where petitioners sought to have marriages declared invalid (or valid). The honest pedestrian plod of civil marriage today, the registry office, the certificates of freedom-to-marry needed, the public registration of the ceremony, are a far cry from the time when up to 20 per cent of all marriages were "clandestine" — that is to say, kept secret, possibly for years, from nearest if not dearest relations.

Indeed, in one case considered here, the clandestine marriage had actually been kept secret from the bride herself. The object of the concealment was to secure a fortune for a penniless young Frenchman from a wealthy widow who had declined his advances. For

in an age where a woman's wealth passed automatically to her husband, marriage to an heiress was by far the simplest and quickest method by which a man could secure personal wealth.

In 1690 Lucy Hooper was the widow of a coachmaker who had carried on her husband's prosperous business. She sounds a most sympathetic character: her own servant called her "of a generous and free spirit, and a good housekeeper". She evidently preferred the independence of her (wealthy) widowed state to further matrimonial ventures, a fact she tactfully but firmly conveyed by continuing to wear "second mourning" for her late husband. But one Jean-Jacques

**UNCERTAIN UNIONS**  
Marriage in England  
1660-1753  
By Lawrence Stone  
OUP, £25

Fazas, a Huguenot refugee who had lost his fortune in France, did not take the sartorial hint. When Mrs Hooper continued to decline his persistent courtship, he lured her to the house of an accomplice who was said to want to order a coach and had her drugged with a dish of chocolate.

In vain poor Mrs Hooper cried out as she collapsed: "Oh, what alas me! I'll go home..." Instead of being taken home, she was conveyed to a rogue clergyman, married to the egregious Jean-Jacques, placed ritually in a bed where the marriage was, according to the bridegroom, consummated, and finally deposited home. When Mrs Hooper eventually came round late the next day, she found to her horror a wedding-ring on her finger. As Mrs Hooper exclaimed: "Oh! I know nothing of it, nor how I came by it."

Fortunately for Mrs Hooper, in bringing her case for the annulment of her marriage (and preservation of her fortune), she had the evidence of various cochemen to support her, and she won her case on the grounds that the marriage had been performed under duress.

Although Mrs Hooper's case is especially startling, with its mixture of drugs, abduction and rape, most of the cases considered here read as vividly as fiction. One quickly realises that the Restoration plays, let alone novels like *Clarissa*, were

firmer based on reality. Nor are the women the only victims. In this "seamy London underworld of venal and drunken dergymen and easily corrupted witnesses" as Stone describes it, women were not only often conspirators, but totally unscrupulous conspirators to boot. Susan Forbes, for example, used her former lover George Mordant's marriage as an opportunity to blackmail him. She claimed a prior marriage, which would have robbed him of his newly acquired (Dorset) fortune.

George tried to rebut his mistress's claims with a brutality characteristic of his age. "Having regard to my birth and quality, I never had any thoughts or designs of courting or addressing Susanah in the way of marriage, she being a woman of very mean and obscure extractions." She responded by staging a fake marriage (an impostor playing the part of George) which was then antedated to a period before the Dorset wedding.

In the end she actually arranged no fewer than three fake marriages (one of them the role of the groom was played by Susan Forbes's niece, a prostitute whose speciality for clients was dressing up in Quaker costume, but who opted for drag on this occasion). Finally she failed, for all her armoury of perjured witnesses, and George won: which was of course justice. Yet one cannot help sneakingly admiring the resourceful if mendacious "Susanah" more than the equally mercenary and far more snobbish George.

Stone's ultimate point is the importance of the 1753 Act in putting an end to all this confusion, including the colourful ruses to which it gave rise. Along the way, he provides a compelling view of English society before the Act. The "clandestine" dergymen, operating a kind of privatised marriage market, often from debtors' prison, are a fascinating subject in themselves.

Incidentally I have referred to Professor Stone as the sole author throughout (as he is credited on the title page), although in his acknowledgements he pays generous tribute to his previous collaborator and wife Jeanne Fawcett Stone and his research assistant Timothy Wales. But I cannot help mildly wondering how such an able team tolerant of various appearances of a "Sir John Sedley" in the text — when he is correctly indexed as Sir Charles.



Six consorts: (above) Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour; (below) Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Catherine Parr

## King Bluebeard's wives

Around the time when Henry VIII succeeded to the throne in 1509, there was a sort of lay theory of Christianity which persisted as a very pervasive myth. It stated that Christian behaviour meant charity, that charity was the opposite of enmity, and that it entailed a relationship both internal and external, called friendship.

One of the principal forms of friendship was marriage, which not only bound the couple married but bound their blood-relations also. This relationship was called affinity. Affinity was a Christian relationship *per se*, which natural kinship or consanguinity was not, or not exactly. St Augustine had said that the human race, after the children of Adam and Eve, did not marry blood-relations because it was their business to spread the relations of friendship and charity around. Hence the extensive notion of incest held by the pre-Reformation church, and other niceties of the marriage law with which Henry VIII had to contend.

Two things had happened earlier in his reign to show that this Christian anthropology of marriage was not dead. In his other masterpiece, the *History of King Richard III*, Thomas More put into the mouth of the dying King Edward IV, Richard's elder brother, a most eloquent statement of it. Edward, though partial to the flesh,

was More's good king; Richard was his bad king. According to More, Edward said that if England was to be a Christian commonwealth, or indeed a commonwealth at all, his nobility should regard the bonds of affinity as no less binding than those of consanguinity, to which nature inclined them. Loving one's in-laws was a painful and therefore Christian duty on which depended the peace of the world. The other thing was that Henry on his accession had married an intelligent woman who believed in the theory.

This was Catherine of Aragon, who is by and large the heroine of Antonia Fraser's learned and serious new book. Not that Lady Antonia is overpartial to her. She says that, after Henry repudiated her, Catherine became obsessed with her rights and wrongs, and a nagger. The two Protestant queens, Anne Boleyn and especially Catherine Parr, come out well in her story. So does Jane Seymour, who died producing Henry's son and heir, Jane Seymour, and Catherine Parr emerge as doing their bit to keep the family together by being nice to the discarded children, Mary and Elizabeth. It seems mainly due to them that the royal

John Bossy

**THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII**  
By Antonia Fraser  
Weidenfeld, £20

family, at Henry's death in 1547, was a surprisingly united body, and that the three children succeeded each other more or less peacefully. They picked up the wreckage that Henry had left, and he did well to be grateful to them.

But Catherine of Aragon dominates the scene, and no wonder. She had Henry for 20 years, and except for Catherine Parr, the survivor, none of the rest had time for a real marital relation to grow. But her true distinction was that, consciously, devotedly and perhaps in the end embarrassingly, she embodied the matrimonial theology of Augustine and More. On the whole Lady Antonia is not at her best on Christianity, but she gets this point across very sharply.

Catherine cannot have got the notion from More, because the *History of Richard III* was not published in his or her lifetime, and she was not close to him, as she was to his fellow-martyr John Fisher. More was Henry's friend. She must, as Lady Antonia points out, have got it from her mother, Queen Isabella of Castile, who had put it into practice herself when she married Ferdinand of Aragon.

It was indeed, if not exactly a woman's theology, at least a theo-

logy which gave the married or marriageable woman a serious and dignified role in the creation of Christian society. It was not really a paternalistic theory: while it required submission to fathers, it did not exactly require submission to husbands. What it required with husbands was friendship, which was two-edged. In the cause of Christian friendship, Catherine had come to a foreign country to marry, first Prince Arthur, then King Henry. In that case she stuck up for her marriage when the Pope wanted her to retire gracefully into a convent. She refused to give her name to a rebellion against the king: she could not, she said, wage war upon her husband.

I do not think Catherine was a saint, as Lady Antonia implies at the end of her book. She was a little too fond of her family of origin. She did not regard the French as friends, even before they launched Anne Boleyn against her. If she had been in their position, she would have been a persecutor like her mother Isabella and her daughter Mary. Chastity stopped a little too near home. But she was surely the most distinguished queen consort we have had, and a credit to the world that bred her.

Professor Bossy's most recent book, *Giordano Bruno and the Embassy Affair*, was published last year.

## From Bosch to boating songs

James Woodall

**THE TROUBLESOME OFFSPRING OF CARDINAL GUZMAN**  
By Louis de Bernières  
Sackler & Warburg, £14.99

In Louis de Bernières' bizarre novel, *The Troublesome Offspring of Cardinal Guzman*, a little boy who gets thrown out of a window turns into a hummingbird. An old general has a would-be assassin's bullet removed by an Indian witch doctor who becomes an eagle at will and, towards the end, a priest levitates with joy.

If such phenomena sound familiar, you have more than likely been reading Gabriel Garcia Marquez, where transformations of the real into the stuff of sorcery happen all the time. The transformations seem natural, people levitate, return from the dead and generally defeat biology in Marquez's novels. Appropriating his techniques, however, is a nervous business.

In spite of his name, De Bernières is as English as they come, though he has worked as a teacher and as a cowboy in a Colombian village. He has learnt much about the intricacies of the latter profession: "Nowadays most lassos are made of blue nylon rope, and the consequence of this progress is that horses are much harder to catch. The rope picks up permanent and intractable kinks that make it almost impossible to make a perfect loop with it."

Blind facial details like that are what make this novel an odd one. Statements which resemble instructions from an outward-bound manual sit alongside images of an almost pornographic devilry. De Bernières has a visionary eye for detail, but he cannot make up his mind whether his fictional universe more closely resembles an SAS survival course or a painting by Hieronymus Bosch.

The Cardinal is His Eminence Dominie Trujillo Guzman: his offspring — the boy he throws out of the window as well as a hairy monster poisoning itself inside his stomach — constitute only a small part of the story. It concerns an unnamed South American state whose decline into godlessness prompts a fanatical priest to undertake a new Inquisition. His violent campaign of national cleansing is

finally thwarted by the cowboys, whores and fake priests — and by a pack of tame jaguars — of the city of Cochabamba de los Gatos ("Swamp Beneath the Cats"). There are some spectacular moments, comic and terrible. Guzman's battle with obscene devils aside (nothing if not spectacular), the visit of the British Ambassador to Cochabamba is one such moment. His humiliating transformation from stiff but interested dignitary to sozzled innocent, forced to listen to a bawdy rendition of the Eton Boating Song and then to watch an epic bout of intercourse between two Mulatto lovers and a lot of fruit, is extremely funny. So are the priapic antics of the mad President Veracruz, absent from his country for an extended "22-month diplomatic tour".

But the real problem with this novel is that evasive quality, tone. There is nothing wrong with variety, and everything with stylistic Babel. De Bernières provides a bit of both: in a novel of just under 400 pages, in which he veers from Marquez to Bosch to Boy Scoutese — and in the stylistic passages not a little of Tom Sharpe — an author can be said not to have been properly brought to book. Had De Bernières been made to prune these enjoyable pages by about a quarter, an authoritative voice might have emerged. This is his third attempt; perhaps in the fourth novel he will become his own man.

**CORRECTION**  
The exhibition referred to in last Thursday's review by Peter Ackroyd of London — World City took place in Essen, not Cologne as stated.



Pakistan's fast bowlers Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis

Continued from page 1 made a strange combination, the great and the good in their black and their white, their orders and decorations hanging bluey beneath their bowties. I in my green shell suit with the Reebok trainers. I was with the chattering classes, who chattered the chat the chattering classes like to chatter when they are just chattering: of the ERM of the EMU, of hard ECUs and soft landings, of holidays and health farms, of their charming villas in the Dordogne and their undying hatred of the French.

At last, impatient, I stopped a passing penguin suit — he turned out to be John Major, though he probably did not know that himself then — and asked to be directed toward some writers. After a moment of thought, he smiled affably

and pointed me in the direction of the far, portrait-hung wall. He proved (on this question certainly) entirely in the right. Up against the wall, in a terrified herd, I found the shortlisted six, the authors whose books were being weighed against each other for the prize. They were huddled together, drinking glasses of orange juice and surrounded by sad-looking literary agents and publishers' publicity girls, every one of them called Fiona. As I expected, they were mostly elderly ladies, though one was a very young girl just learning the grubby trade. Another a male author from the Antipodes suffering from terminal jet-lag. Some of the ladies had permed their hair, though most

preferred to leave theirs in a state of gay disorder. Some carried plastic shopping bags, one was already weeping a little, another complaining she had taken more orange juice than was good for her. All appeared bewildered, as if no one had properly explained them why, just for this once, they had been let out. The only way they resembled writers was that all of them were sulky and spiteful, and clearly detested each other. By now the five judges, the deliberations completed, were back in the room and spreading the result among their spouses or other consorts. But, the game of the Booker being to keep the authors themselves in suspense as long as possible, to raise the

Nigel Williamson

**WASIM AND WAQAR**  
Imran's Inheritors  
By John Crace  
Bantam, £15.99

**WHAT IS A GOOGLY?**  
By Robert Eastaway  
Robson, £6.99

**SOMEONE WHO WAS**  
By Brian Johnston  
Methuen, £14.99

seriously the question of why so many "incidents" seem to befall the Pakistanis wherever they play. Old Trafford this summer being but the latest example. It is not that this bouncer of an issue is ducked. Crace does present a picture of a team which spends much of its time bleating about the umpires, bickering with officialdom and which believes it is at war with a cricketing establishment that is out to do down Pakistani cricket at every opportunity. But Crace tries to exonerate the Pakistanis of all blame — and fails to convince.

Crace makes a poor umpire: he allows some bizarre wides and no-balls to go uncalled. Wasim is allowed the preposterous assertion that the restrictions on intimidatory bowling have been "brought in to

protect one batsman and that is Graeme Hick". The Lancashire batsman Gahan Mendis has a unique view of the ball-doctoring controversy: "Perhaps their sweat has different properties to other people's that make it ideal for swinging the ball."

What is a googly? is the sort of question all cricket-lovers have spent hours attempting to explain to wives, girlfriends, six-year-olds and American cousins. Robert Eastaway answers this and other equally perplexing questions with wit and panache and has shrewdly perceived a large market with the ideal giftbook for cricket lovers to bestow upon the uninitiated. John Major recently gave George Bush a copy on a trip to Camp David: whether it will help the president on his sticky wicket remains to be seen.

Brian Johnston's *Someone Who Was* marks the commentator's 80th birthday. It is not really a cricket book, although naturally the game figures largely in its pages. It is a loose autobiography, full of Johnston's wit, honed over nearly 50 years of broadcasting, complete with the infamous prep school nicknames, and dreadful puns which are his trademark. When he finally follows those other voices of summer Swanton and Arlott into retirement, both cricket and broadcasting will be the poorer.

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© Victor Crimble by Malcolm Bradbury is published by Sackler & Warburg on September 14 (£14.99)

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- Key member of corporate management team reporting to Managing Director.
- Critical role in driving forward all HR features of the Plan.
- Develop HR input to strategic planning, especially in training, culture change and best practice management systems.

- Work closely with line management to provide knowledge and expertise to support business units.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Broadly based blue-chip HR experience in unionised environment with proven commercial flair.
- Down-to-earth but able to see the big picture. Change oriented with excellent communications skills.
- Able to win the confidence and respect of senior line business managers. Facilitate change and enable others to perform well.

Please write, enclosing full cv. Ref L3271  
 54 Jermy Street, London, SW1Y 6LX



NBS SELECTION LTD - a Norman Broadbent International associated company  
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### Manufacturing Operations Director

#### Multi-Assembly Electronic Products

Northern England

£40,000 + Bonus + Car

This successful medium-sized company, part of an ambitious British-owned group, manufactures and markets a range of quality, high performance electronic equipment. The company's success is based on its ability to serve niche markets, which require complexity of product offer and a flexible manufacturing operation.

This important role reports to the Managing Director and has responsibility for formulating and implementing manufacturing strategy, consistent with the commercial needs of the business. Managing and directing a committed workforce, the appointee will have the following key responsibilities:

- developing and driving plans to maximise productivity and commercial effectiveness;
- directing all aspects of planning, purchasing, quality and production;
- implementing TQM, adding to BS5750 which has already been achieved.

Already in manufacturing operations management with a world-class manufacturer, the successful candidate should be able to demonstrate a considerable record of achievement in improving productivity and total quality. Ideally aged 35 to 45 and of graduate calibre, candidates should have experience of working in a fast-moving, multi-assembly environment. Vision and strategic awareness should be complemented by a practical and direct approach to implementing plans. Other important personal attributes must include first-class leadership and communication skills.

The remuneration package will include an attractive bonus scheme, fully expensed executive car, pension scheme, health care and assistance with relocation where necessary.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a detailed CV, to Philip Gardiner at the address below, quoting reference number 91217N.



MANAGEMENT SELECTION

PARK HOUSE, 6 KILLINGBECK DRIVE, YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS14 6UF FAX: 0532 484852. TELEPHONE: 0532 351007.  
 A GKR Group Company

### Senior Management Consultants

#### Major International Practice

UK-Based

Salary Range £25,000 - £45,000

In the current business climate, there are few firms of management consultants who can match our client's growth record. The practice specialises in optimising business performance, and functional areas embrace organisational development, business systems, sales and marketing, distribution and logistics, manufacturing and financial management.

There is an immediate requirement to appoint additional consultancy personnel as Project Managers and Senior Consultants, to work on mainly UK-based assignments.

Operating with senior client management, the successful candidates will be responsible for leading, or working as part of, multi-disciplined project teams. Key tasks will include:

- investigating clients' current activities;
- identifying areas of under-performance and recommending best practice;

- implementing recommendations and training client personnel.

Candidates, ideally aged 25 to 45, with a graduate level qualification, must be able to demonstrate a successful background in consultancy projects. The requirement is primarily for candidates with experience gained in an established management consultancy, although a successful track record in project management would also be considered.

First-class presentation, communication and interpersonal skills at executive/board level are essential. The nature of the assignments will demand high personal commitment and a willingness to travel extensively. Business fluency in a second European language would be an advantage.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a detailed CV, to Philip Gardiner at the address below, quoting reference number 91218N.



MANAGEMENT SELECTION

PARK HOUSE, 6 KILLINGBECK DRIVE, YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS14 6UF FAX: 0532 484852. TELEPHONE: 0532 351007.  
 A GKR Group Company

### GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY UNIT

#### UNIT GENERAL MANAGER

Salary to £61,000

Glasgow Royal Infirmary Unit is the largest of the Board's nine Units. Centred on Glasgow Royal Infirmary, a major 800 bed teaching hospital, with extensive National and Supra-area clinical commitments, the Unit includes three other hospitals, and has a total budget of £80m and a staff of 3,000. The Unit faces a challenging agenda in the light of the NHS reforms.

Your job will be to manage the Unit and its resources to provide an improved and more efficient service. You will secure a shared commitment within the Unit to these goals and establish mutually supportive relationships with purchasers.

You will need to be a general manager of exceptional quality and vision, used to significant financial responsibility, and with a successful record in the management of change.

This challenging opportunity is offered with an attractive salary and benefits package, access to a leased car, and assistance with relocation expenses.

If you consider you have the background to match this exciting job specification, you should write to Stewart Hinchelwood, Director of Personnel, 112 Ingram Street, Glasgow G1 1EF for an information package and an application form.



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**MOTOROLA**

- ◆ MOTOROLA Worldwide - 100,000 people
- ◆ In Europe - 10,500 people ◆ In the UK - 4,500 people
- ◆ Key objectives: Intelligent Innovation - Quality - Total Customer Satisfaction
- ◆ Global Leaders in Networked Communication Systems.

### MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

IMPLEMENT  
A "GREENFIELD" STRATEGY  
FOR EUROPE'S  
LARGEST GROWTH MARKET

BASINGSTOKE

Motorola's European Cellular Subscriber Division has already established itself as the market leader in the field of analogue and digital cellular telecommunications products and systems. With a 5 year marketing programme already defined, we have recently created this new role, and are seeking a graduate calibre professional with the track record, credibility and determination to implement the programme throughout Europe.

Based at our European HQ in Basingstoke, you'll be working closely with HQ management, Country Managers and Product Marketing colleagues throughout Europe to develop a consistent integrated communications programme which will support our activities on a Pan European and local national level. From managing our appointed advertising agency to create a powerful brand identity and working with Product Marketing on new product launches to ensure consistency with future global promotional requirements, this role will stretch your influencing, creative and business skills to the limit.

Aged 28+, with foreign language ability, you must have at least 5 years' experience of developing and implementing strategic marketing/advertising plans as well as short term tactical projects. A team player as well as a self-starter, your experience will probably have been gained in a large international or European organisation. With a significant budget behind you, this is an excellent, highly visible opportunity to make things happen. As you'd expect, your acid test will be results.

The remuneration and benefits package will not be a limiting factor, and the opportunities for career progression are on a truly worldwide basis.

In the first instance send a brief CV to Helen Wyatt, Personnel Manager, Motorola Ltd, Cellular Subscriber Division, Beechgrove Court, Crookford Lane, Chichester, Basingstoke, Hants. RG2Y 0NA. Telephone 0256 817474, Fax 0256 27092.

071-481 4481

## EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

FAX 071-782 7826

## INTERGRAPH

### SALES EXECUTIVE

Interactive Computer Graphics

Scotland OTE £45,000, car

Intergraph Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, with revenues in excess of \$1.1 billion and over 10,000 employees, is acknowledged as a world leader in the development and marketing of computer graphic solutions for major industries. Responsibility, as a member of the Oil and Process Industries Divisional sales team of the successful and rapidly expanding UK subsidiary, is for the generation of substantial additional business from existing and potential new customers. Following a detailed product familiarisation and induction programme at the London sales office, which will include extensive on territory client activity, you will transfer to an Aberdeen base, focussing on opportunities within the downstream activities of oil and petrochemicals organisations and related manufacturing companies in Scotland. Candidates will be chemical or mechanical engineering graduates aged over 30, able to demonstrate an outstanding track record in the sale of computer based solutions to a sophisticated client base with average contract values in excess of £100,000. The comprehensive benefits include a basic salary of c.£27,500, a realistic opportunity for substantial additional earnings and a generous relocation package if required. Please forward in absolute confidence a full curriculum vitae to Adderley Featherstone plc, The Grainger Suite, Dobson House, Regent Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3PF. Tel: 091 284 2213. Fax: 091 285 1137.

ADDERLEY-FEATHERSTONE plc

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## COMPUTER SYSTEMS SALES

AMBITIOUS, RESULTS ORIENTATED BUSINESS DEVELOPERS

Established for over ten years and employing 100 professionals in four UK offices, we are a successful and growing software house providing administration management systems solutions... particularly to educational establishments, local government and financial services organisations. Reorganisation of our London sales team, based at Ilford, has created the following key requirements:

### REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

£23k basic + car, OTE £46k

Strong team management and proven personal sales record at the sharp end of integrated systems software/hardware solutions. Goal orientated team builder with well developed negotiating skills and watertight technical knowledge.

### APPLICATIONS SALES EXECUTIVES

£20k basic + car, OTE £40k

Experienced in software applications/solutions sales ideally with knowledge/track record in local authority and/or education management sectors.

### SALES SUPPORT MANAGER

£22k + car

Possibly hardware manufacturer background with UNIX knowledge. To look after all aspects of pre and post sales support in this busy sales office.

These important and influential appointments represent outstanding opportunities for hardworking, ambitious systems sales professionals (graduates preferred) who live in the South East and are keen to make their mark in a progressive and flourishing company.

Write with c.v., indicating the post you are applying for, to Stuart Batterby, Group Sales Manager, NORD Systems Limited, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex IG2 7SA. No agencies.

NORD

With Hogan Systems, a global leader in financial solutions, you will rank among the best who provide on-site consultation and user training on our customised software. A Hogan Systems background is highly desirable for each position and the ability to travel and/or relocate internationally is a necessity.

### Business Consultant

With 5-10 years technical experience in a banking environment and excellent communication skills, you will identify clients' business objectives and define their needs for product customisation.

### Senior Programmer/Analysts

Your experience should include 4-6 years with COBOL and CICS, IMS or DB2, and in-depth knowledge of retail applications (current savings accounts, lending, credit/debit cards), preferably gained in a financial institution or software house environment.

In return, we offer an excellent salary and benefits package, relocation assistance, (paid travel) and living expenses and more. Please forward your resume with salary history to Hogan Systems (UK) Limited, Human Resources Manager, ST/23 Church Street W, Woking, Surrey, GU24 1D. Equal Opportunity Employer. No Agencies.

Hogan

### Career Evaluation

Allied Dunbar Assurance plc have branches throughout the South East and are looking for intelligent and professionally minded people between 25 and 40 to market their range of financial services.

If you have ever wondered whether a career in sales or marketing would suit you, this is your opportunity to find out. We would like to invite you to attend a meeting to be held shortly which would discuss and explain the opportunities available within the Group and also - most importantly - offer a COMPREHENSIVE ALTERNATIVE CAREER EVALUATION exercise.

We have for many years guided ourselves in our ability to select talent from outside the financial services industry and to develop very successful Financial Training Consultants from those who have had no experience of sales in the past.

Please write with a brief c.v. to: Emma Brown, Allied Dunbar, 1st Floor, Clockhouse Court, 5-7 London Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 1AA or call 0727 836511.

Opportunities exist in the following locations: Birmingham, Central London, Crawley, Essex, East Midlands, Birmingham, Oxfordshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, St Albans, Watford, Woking, N & London and other locations nationwide.

Allied Dunbar Assurance plc is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ALLIED DUNBAR

## Manufacturing Operations Manager

Advanced process manufacturing environment

A key manufacturing unit within a large global technology organisation, our client's undeniable success in the international market is built on strong foundations of applied research, investment and a commitment to total quality.

We are now looking for an experienced manufacturing manager to control and direct the planning of manufacturing, and take a strategic lead in the development of the site, both in terms of technology and methods.

With 170 management and production staff under your control, you'll be entering a successful mixed manufacturing environment which includes process production, the assembly of electronics and precision manufactured mechanical components. Reporting to the General Manager, the emphasis of the role will be on the need to translate the five year manufacturing strategy into a series of workable action plans - with a particular focus on quality, budgetary control and delivery timescales.

Hence your management oversight will cover system assembly, manpower resourcing, test,

production planning, TQM and the introduction of new computer based systems.

Educated to degree level in an engineering discipline, it's unlikely that anyone under 30 will have either the depth or breadth of experience required. An excellent communicator with a proven ability in the management of projects and control of significant budgets, you must be familiar with modern manufacturing techniques such as Kanban, Taguchi and JIT - experience most probably gained in a process engineering, assembly or electronics technology manufacturing environment.

This is a senior and highly visible role which offers the scope to make a considerable personal impact. For the right person, neither the immediate rewards or longer term career prospects will prove disappointing.

To apply, please send your CV to Richard Wilding,

TCS Confidential Replies Service, 35 Carway

Road, London W2 4QF. Tel: 071-243 1176.

Fax: 071-243 0060.

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ADVERTISING

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## Development Dimensions International

### "BUILDING EMPOWERED ORGANISATIONS"

For over 20 years, Development Dimensions International (DDI) has been helping organisations succeed - through people - working in close partnership to create empowered, high-involvement workforces. Central to this is our expertise in 3 key areas - organisational change, assessment and selection, and training and development.

An impressive client base including many of Europe's top companies is a clear indicator of our success, and with consistent growth at over 50% per annum we now need three more highly talented professionals to join our team based at our European Regional Headquarters in HIGH WYCOMBE, BEDS.

### SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ROLE - EUROPE

Package c. £35,000 + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5366

In this high-profile role, you will consult and influence at the most senior level, promoting our services to gain new business from multi-national organisations currently operating throughout Europe. You will manage and develop each account, guiding colleagues and collaborating with them in project work to maintain the highest levels of client satisfaction. You must have gained at least 3-5 years' multinational experience in either Training and Development, or Selection and Development, together with a minimum of 3 years' general commercial or industrial experience. An EC National and resident in the UK (Thames Valley), you must be fluent in English and at least one other major European language. 50% of your time will be spent working abroad in mainland Europe, for which an acceptable lifestyle and high levels of energy are essential.

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - SOUTHERN UK

£25,000 package + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5367

This newly-created position offers the ideal opportunity for a keen HR professional to join our team at ground level, attending presentations and working closely with

colleagues on client projects, to learn our business and eventually develop your own accounts. A personnel generalist, you should be a graduate, currently living within the Thames Valley, and must combine at least 3 years' commercial experience with a strong sense of customer service. Promotion will be a natural progression for an enthusiastic and dedicated team-player who can achieve results.

### SELECTION AND ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT

£35,000 (including bonus) + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5368

Over 20 years ago, our president Dr. William C Byham pioneered the commercial use of assessment centres and today we are a world leader with the highest quality of assessment technology. An additional consultant is now needed to work in our Selection and Assessment Team.

You will work closely with a wide variety of clients in the following areas: conducting job analysis, developing assessment systems, delivering training in assessment and behavioural interviewing skills, and project managing on large-scale implementations. Ideally with a degree in Occupational Psychology and at least 3 years' broad industrial experience including some time management, you should be attracted by DDI's behavioural approach to assessment, and will derive real satisfaction from meeting clients' needs. Travel throughout the UK and occasionally Europe should also appeal.

For all three roles we need people who can work successfully in our own high-involvement culture, and who will seek to achieve continually - stretching objectives. High volumes of work and tight deadlines mean it's a demanding environment in which to work but in return we offer unlimited scope for personal growth - with a company at the leading edge of human resource solutions.

If you feel ready for a significant challenge, please write in strictest confidence, quoting the appropriate reference number, with full CV and salary details, to:

Felicity Exton, Managing Consultant, NORTHBROOK ASSOCIATES LTD., 1 Bridge Street, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5BH. Tel: (0635) 49670

DDI  
Development Dimensions International

## General Manager - Sales

State of the art videoconferencing products designed to meet the growing needs of this dynamic environment have enabled my client to secure a major share of the fastest growing sector of the telecommunications market. An established company with a significant presence in several countries, they have plans to develop into a commanding position on a worldwide scale. This strategy provides a unique opportunity for a high calibre sales manager who has the proven experience of managing a multi-channel international sales environment.

Probably a graduate with at least 10 years' experience, you should have a broad understanding of telecommunications or networks and, ideally, videoconferencing. Your strong personal and team building skills should be supplemented with the practical experience of major account development and distributor management. A broad commercial awareness and a second European language would be added advantages. Operating from your base in the Thames Valley, you should be prepared for a considerable amount of overseas travel.

The remuneration package includes a substantial salary, performance payment, company car, private health insurance and other benefits designed to attract the very best.

To apply, please send your CV, quoting reference MD2730, to me, Clive Morris at Macmillan Davies, Colston Centre, Colston Street, Bristol, BS1 4UX. Telephone (0272) 251351. Fax (0272) 254903.

### Videoconferencing

c. £65,000 package



Macmillan Davies

SEARCH &amp; SELECTION

## DIRECTORS

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Europe's leading outplacement and career management consultancy, InterExec has over 15 years' experience of managing career change for senior executives and many of Britain's largest companies.

By accessing over 6,000 unadvertised vacancies a year, mostly at £40-150,000 p.a. InterExec provides clients with vital market intelligence AND its subsidiary, InterMex, makes recommendations from its candidate bank without charge.

For further information call Keith Mitchell on 071-930 5041.

INTEREXEC PLC Landseer House, 19 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0ES.

THE LARGEST SINGLE SOURCE OF UNADVERTISED VACANCIES

### Wrong job - Redundant?

#### Neither means being out of the running

We are a team of career professionals who care about your future, whether you are employed or not. Finding the right job is all about confidence, aptitude and contacts. Our expertise is comprehensive and individually tailored to meet your needs, goals and the right position - often within the unadvertised market.



Call Wilson McKenzie on 071 920 0488 to arrange an initial meeting for Manchester call 061 834 2189 and Midlands 0788 546107.

McKenzie  
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McKenzie Waterman & Co., St Alphage House, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DA.

## SENIOR RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Basingstoke

£ High Basic + bonus, bens &amp; car

Well established, Interactive Resourcing has an enviable reputation for providing an efficient recruitment service of the highest quality within the IT sectors of industry. We can now offer two experienced IT recruitment consultants the opportunity to share in our success. One of the successful candidates will be expected to take up a team management role shortly after joining. For further information or to apply in the strictest confidence contact:

Amanda Marsden, Interactive Resourcing Limited, 8 Campbell Court, Bramley, Basingstoke RG26 5EG. Tel: (0256) 882826

Interactive Resourcing

150-160

## MANAGER CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT SALES



Highly attractive package

This is an outstanding opportunity for a sales professional to join one of the world's best known manufacturers of cranes and excavators. With a turnover of £30 million in the UK, Atlas Hydraulic Loaders Limited, the UK subsidiary of Atlas Weyhausen GmbH, is enjoying a period of sustained growth and profitability, both domestically and in worldwide markets, and has ambitious plans for growth.

Reporting to the Managing Director, you will have profit and operational responsibility for managing all aspects of the excavator sales division, covering both new and used sales in the UK. You must have at least 5 years experience of selling construction machinery, and ideally should have sold excavators. A track record of success working as a Sales Manager either for a well known UK or Overseas company is particularly desirable. You must possess excellent sales management and motivational skills and the ability to make commercially sensible business decisions. A business qualification would be useful but is not essential.

Our client is offering an excellent package which includes a high basic salary, bonus, a Mercedes and other executive benefits. The location of the job will be either Cannock or Bradford. A comprehensive relocation package is available.

Interested applicants should send a detailed CV, quoting reference A07 to Peter Siviter, Touche Ross Executive Selection at the address below.

**Touche  
Ross**

**MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS**  
39 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2QQ.

## Create Business Partnerships with Multi-Nationals utilising Consulting and Technology

Our client is a global IT vendor and service provider with a proven ability to provide leading edge strategic information systems. They have recently undertaken a global strategy utilising the company's core strengths to work in business partnership with the largest multi-nationals in a drive for service excellence. They have set up new teams to support this strategy and now require a number of outstanding individuals who are committed to customer satisfaction and innovative use of technology to support strategic business partnerships.

### Strategic Account Managers New Business Development

Package c.£65k + Car

Responsibility will be for developing relationships with major multi-nationals in order to support their business strategies through delivery of solutions which will range from systems integration and outsourcing to strategic consulting. These are highly influential roles. They call for an excellent academic background, significant commercial experience, and an outstanding record of success in strategic account development. Currently working with a systems integrator, management consultancy or major IT vendor, you will be focusing on the PROCESS INDUSTRIES OR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SECTOR.

Based in London/Thames Valley, these are high profile demanding roles in which your success will depend on your ability to influence organisations at board level. This will be enhanced by your understanding of the commercial advantage which integrated solutions can provide. Working in a stimulating environment the rewards are substantial both in terms of overall package and career opportunities. Please send or fax your CV to Goodman Graham and Associates, advising consultants, at the address below, quoting the appropriate reference, and outlining the sectors in which you have specific expertise.

**GOODMAN GRAHAM  
AND ASSOCIATES**

8 Beaumont Gate, Shenley Hill, Radlett, Herts WD7 7AR.  
Telephone: 0923 855515. Fax: 0923 854791

### Strategic Sales Consultants Business Process Re-Engineering

Package c.£65k + Car

You will join an elite group tasked with winning strategic consulting and systems integration business with major clients on top management issues. Operating at the most senior levels, you will provide the vision and act as the facilitator to enable organisations to make positive and fundamental change in the areas of business process re-engineering, flexible working practice and service excellence. Probably in your 30s and a graduate, ideally with an MBA, you will have a broad commercial background coupled with a deep understanding of IT. Your experience in a client contact role will have been gained in a leading management consultancy, software house or vendor where business development was a measurable part of the brief.

Ref: 5101

## REGIONAL SALES MANAGERS

Telecommunications £42,000 + O.T.E.  
Europe, Middle East & Africa

**THE COMPANY** Context International is a highly profitable and expanding UK company which provides international value added telecommunications services including Telex, Text-to-Fax and Electronic Mail.

**THE JOB** Reporting to the General Sales Manager, the Regional Managers will have full responsibility for all sales activities in their region (Europe or Middle East & Africa). Leading, managing and motivating a team of locally based Country Managers and Agents. Extensive travel involved.

**PERSONAL PROFILE** You are a dynamic Sales Manager, probably between 30-40 years old. You have a proven sales and management track record with extensive sales experience in the appropriate region. Clear communicator and effective organiser. Data/Computer experience desirable. European languages an asset.

**THE PACKAGE** Negotiable salary circa £32,000 plus unlimited performance related bonus. Other benefits include: Executive Car, Pension, Private Health Insurance and Life Insurance.

Please write, enclosing a curriculum vitae, including telephone number and details of your current salary to:  
Stephen Evans, General Sales Manager  
Context International Limited  
Sceptre Hill, Stonehouse Court, London EC3A 7AX

**COMTEXT  
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

## IT Director - Retail

London £70,000 + Executive Benefits

This appointment arises in a company which is one of the major plc's within the distribution sector. Following recent strengthening of the top management team, the company is poised to embark on an ambitious diversification programme.

An essential element in the successful future growth of the business will be the quality of its IT systems, hence the requirement at this stage in the company's development for a senior IT professional with the strategic vision, business knowledge and personal stature to operate effectively at plc board level.

Suitable candidates will be able to demonstrate a proven record of successfully implementing point of sale, supply chain and management information systems in a major retail organisation, and will have highly developed management and communication skills.

Please send a comprehensive career résumé, including day time telephone number and quoting reference 1002, to JPW Advertising Ltd, Recruitment Division, 8 St Georges Yard, Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7LW.

**JPW**

## Are you at the crossroads of your career?

If redundancy looms, or you are disillusioned or unemployed and unsure of which way to turn, contact our specialist career consultants. We have been providing personally tailored career management programmes for executives earning £20K plus for over 40 years.

We help you recognise and act on the wealth of opportunities that exist - even in these times.

Call to arrange an appointment with no obligation, or send your CV (lines open 24 hrs).  
We abide by the IPM Code of Conduct

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MANCHESTER 061 228 0888 - YORKSHIRE 0532 426152  
GLASGOW 041 222 1502 - DUNDEE 0182 422 0380

**CHUSID LANDER**  
35/37 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 5AF

## Director of Finance and Corporate Affairs

for a long-established, major charity which is recognized as a leader in the field of care for people with disability. This is a key appointment in a period of change in the control and development of the charity which operates throughout the U.K. and overseas. In addition to responsibility for financial control, the role extends to overall management of corporate fundraising and public relations.

A qualified accountant with a commercial orientation is required. Personal attributes for a top management position, the ability to introduce new ideas and technical competence are all equally important.

Salary not less than £30,000. Location: London.

Please write in confidence with full CV to  
Geoffrey Elms, Charity Appointments,  
3 Spital Yard, London E1 6AQ.

**Charity Appointments**

A registered charity serving the voluntary sector.

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FOR CAREER INFO PACK**

## PERSONNEL OFFICER

City of London £15,000-£18,000  
plus benefits

Jardine Insurance Brokers is the International Insurance Broking and Risk Management Operation of Jardines. Our aim is to provide the very best service to all our clients with a commitment to quality and that means recruiting the best people.

We now need a bright, highly motivated and well-rounded personnel professional. You will probably be in your late 20s and have had at least one personnel appointment since gaining your IPM qualification. Ideally this experience will have been within the financial sector and you will be used to providing the full range of personnel services including recruitment and other employee relations matters.

If you possess genuine enthusiasm plus the ability to work in a demanding yet stimulating environment, we can offer you all the benefits of working for a large, successful organisation and the opportunity to develop your career to the full.

Please apply in writing with full career history to Keith Cuthbertson, Group Personnel Manager, Jardine Insurance Services Limited, Jardine House, 6 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2HT



## Redundant or The Next Move?

We can help you find a new job

### Directors/Senior Managers

- Professional outplacement and career consultants to maximise your potential.
- Get the right job through access to the unadvertised job market.
- Quality services without frills include one-to-one counselling.
- Programmes approved for interest free Government loan scheme.

For free initial consultation call (SUNDAY 10am - 1pm or in normal office hours)  
**LONDON 071 379 3133, DORSET 0206 888522**

**HEADWAY**

Old Chapel Lane, High Street, Dorset BH1 1AA  
Headway adheres to the IPM Code of Conduct for Career and Unemployment Consultants

## DIRECTORS/MANAGERS

### UNEMPLOYED, EX. PAT. CAREER RUT: RECESSION HIT

You need a new position.

With hundreds of applicants applying for each advertised position, how can an individual compete in the marketplace?

Fletcher Hunt are not an agency, but a specialist team established to help individuals seeking fast career change to find the right position, quickly and professionally, normally within the unadvertised market. Consultancy is sometimes available to our unemployed clients.

**Fletcher Hunt plc.**

Phone Richard Holmes on 071-436 8886  
59 Devonshire Street, London W1N 1LT

**DEPARTMENTAL CONSULTANTS**  
London 071-436 8886  
North West 0423-622282  
Norwich 01603-825054  
Yorkshire 0423-885253

Rugby 01829-548537  
Dorset 091 830  
Newcastle 091-224 1010  
Bristol 0272-308804  
Southampton 0703-702336  
Torbay 0729-413327  
Glasgow 041-204 3224  
Hong Kong

## TEC OPERATIONS MANAGER

NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE UP TO £33K + BONUS

North Nottinghamshire Training and Enterprise Council is working in the community to ensure that education and training are valued and enterprise can prosper.

The TEC has a budget of £17m, 60 staff and more than 400 members employing over one third of the North Nottinghamshire workforce.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, and part of a highly motivated team, your job will be to manage effectively the TEC's education and training programmes, sustaining strong and committed partnerships with a network of quality suppliers.

Graduate level candidates must be personally committed to the TEC agenda and vision. A strategic management background and knowledge of latest developments in the education and training business are also important. If you are self-motivated, persuasive and innovative please write with CV quoting current salary and Ref. No: AK1092 to Angus Keller.

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### Management Development

#### Trainer

£18,749 pa

This is initially a six-month appointment. You will be a skilled presenter and facilitator, with recent training experience in leadership, team building, interpersonal skills, presentation skills and time management. Naturally, you'll possess the intellectual and personal skills to work with a wide range of people, and bring the most out of them.

Courses at the Management Centre are residential, and there will be some evening work. You must also be prepared to travel.

### Personnel Senior Trainer

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This senior position demands an experienced, forward-thinking personnel specialist, a skilled presenter and facilitator, with strong self-motivation. Demonstration of personnel management expertise in key areas, together with a high level of interpersonal and communication skills, will be crucial. You will also need the ability to develop contacts at all levels.

Our portfolio ranges from personnel skills for line managers to workshops for senior personnel specialists. The team is enjoying an exciting and challenging period of growth. We are the first corporate organisation in the UK to win approval as a full Learner Support Centre for the IPM professional qualification.

If you can add value to our team, we can offer first-class working conditions and a stimulating, enriching role. If you are interested in either of these posts, please write to our Resourcing Manager for an Information pack and application form to be returned by 9 September 1992, specifying which position you are applying for.

Janice Parker, Resourcing Manager  
Cotton House Management Centre  
Rugby CV23 0AA

We are an equal opportunities employer, and welcome applications from all sections of the community. Suitably qualified applicants with a disability will be shortlisted for interview.

The Training & Development Group is part of the Post Office.



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We now wish to appoint someone to deal with our Japanese customers both at home and abroad.  
Candidates must have an in-depth and practical working knowledge of the Japanese language, culture and customs. Previous experience gained in a similar retail environment is preferred.  
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Interested applicants should contact Karen Levell at SITPRO on 071 287 3525 for an application form or send a CV, in confidence, to Karen at the address above.

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Established Int'l training corp. seeks English Language Consultants to work with our corporate clientele in Japan for a minimum of one year. Successful candidates will possess at least a Bachelor's degree and have a minimum of two years' exp. in a business, teaching or technical capacity. A background in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) would also be advantageous.  
A challenging, cross-cultural working environment and competitive remuneration package (basic salary £11,500/yr) make this the opportunity for outgoing, self-motivated, flexible professionals.  
Sound interesting? Please respond in writing, submitting your CV, a copy of your university degree and a one-page essay describing your reasons for seeking employment in Japan to:  
Interac Co Ltd  
Foreign Recruiting Dept.  
Mansuetsu Bldg. 3F  
1-12-5 Hishikashi, Chiyoda-Ku  
Tokyo, Japan 102.  
(documents must be received by Saturday Sept. 19th)  
Interviews will be held in early November in London/Oxford.

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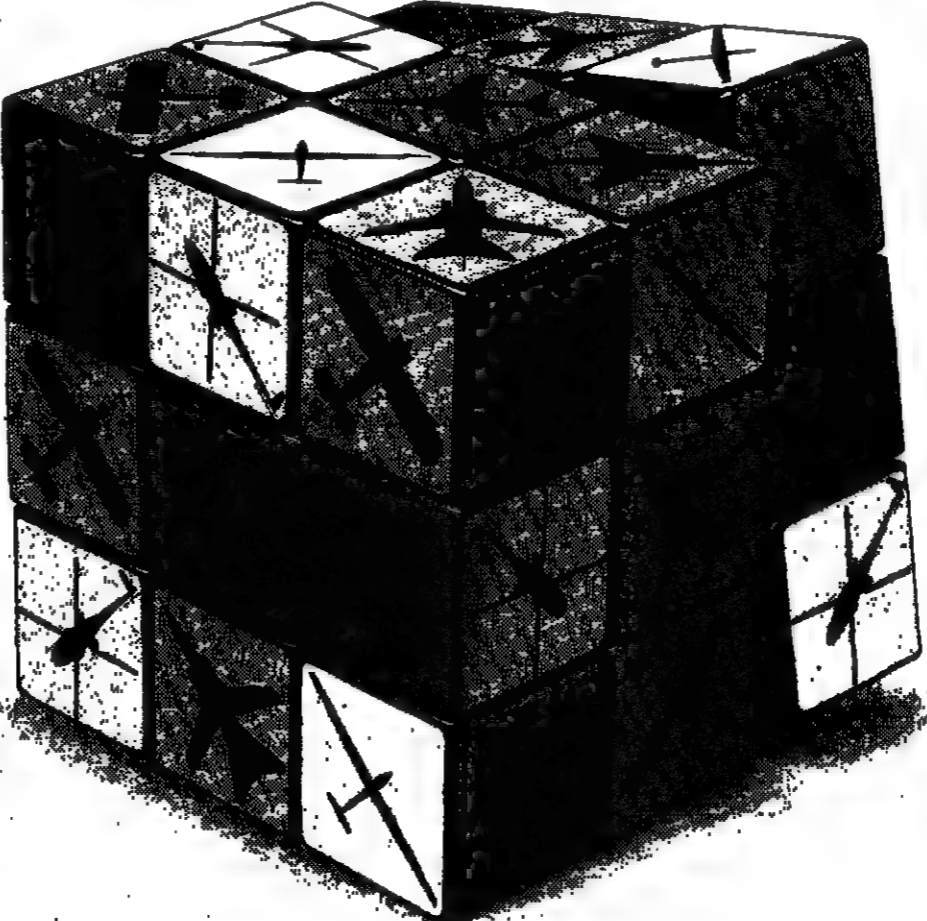
**NFU SENIOR POLICY ADVISER**  
Representing Farmers and Growers  
The NFU is appointing a Senior Policy Adviser to take the lead role for advising its members on agricultural, countryside and rural policies and promoting their interests in the South East of England.  
Based in Liss, the successful applicant will have a detailed knowledge of and previous involvement in agricultural policy matters and excellent communication, leadership and team working skills. Experience of media liaison and committee servicing is advantageous, not essential.  
A competitive salary and benefits package including a car is provided.  
For further information and an application form, contact the Personnel Secretary, NFU, Agriculture House, London, SW1X 7NJ, (Tel: 071-235 5077). The closing date for completed applications is 11 September 1992.

**KITCHEN DESIGNER**  
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**CUSTOMER LIAISON OFFICER**  
Required by Japanese Satellite T.V. Company to liaise with Japanese subscribers in the UK and Europe in respect of enquiries, complaints, equipment servicing and payments. Also responsible for liaison between subscribers and management and for maintaining subscriber records. Fluency in written and spoken Japanese and English is essential for this post. Ability to type and use Japanese word processor would be a distinct advantage. Salary according to experience. Please Reply to Box No 5912

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Now imagine being part of the team responsible for sorting out all that sky, and all those aircraft flying in it.

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You don't need to be an ace at computer games. But you will be using state-of-the-art computer controlled equipment to give pilots their instructions.

And you don't need to be a hyperactive live-wire with a microphone in one hand and a bottle of pills in the other. That's strictly for the movies.

No one says it's going to be easy; we don't call our training simulators 'sweat chambers' for nothing. But when one day a pilot takes the

trouble to thank you personally for keeping your head and talking him down again safely in an emergency, you will realise that few jobs offer such genuine rewards.

If you relish the challenge of making split-second decisions, here's your first.

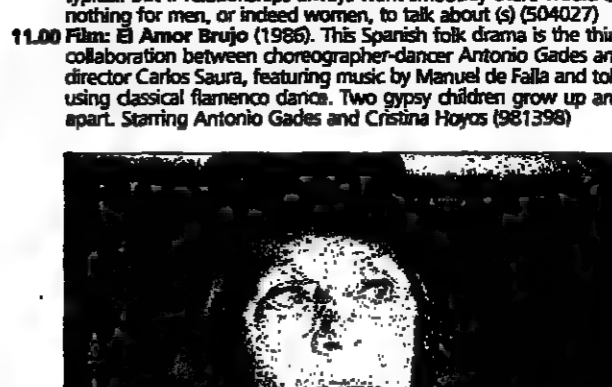
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**CHANNEL 4**

6.00 Channel 4 Daily (6663468)  
9.25 Road to Nowhere (1994) (b/w). Vintage science-fiction series (2704263) 9.50 Footloose. Canine animation (2366973)  
9.55 Get Smart (9345716) 10.20 Star Trek. Tony Stanley (r) (273102)  
10.50 Remote Control. Anarchic quiz show (r) (8947263)  
11.12 Things to Come. Predicting the future (r) (1318640)  
11.50 Great Britain — A Travel Guide. The transport in the eighties (6681621) 12.00 The Munchers (b/w). Gothic humor (r) (1391)  
12.30 Don't Quess Me. Geoffrey Perkins and the game show based on the sayings of the famous and infamous (37089)  
1.00 Same Street. Musical fun (r) (25244)  
2.00 Secrets of the Moor. The photographer Chris Chapman continues to explore Ennord (8756)  
2.30 Film: If Winter Comes (1947, b/w). Sentimental love triangle story about an unhappily married publisher who offers shelter to a pregnant young girl. Starring Walter Pidgeon, Angela Lansbury and Deborah Kerr. Directed by Victor Saville (66859531)  
4.15 Barefaced Flatfoot. Cartoon adventures (635440)  
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (r) (831)  
5.00 The Open. British television entrepreneurs discuss the success in business (42382027)  
5.15 The Bumbury Tails. Fun with the cartoon rabbits (3) (966824)  
6.00 My Two Dads: Class. Joey becomes jealous when Michael takes night-school class (r). (Teletext) (3) (824)  
6.30 Wilderness Edge. Outdoor drama series about a disparate group of youngsters (r) (3) (176)  
7.00 Channel 4 News. Weather (7004934) 7.50 Comment (288756)  
8.00 The Night of the Living Dead. A reconstruction of the evening leading up to Onnie Beldone's death in Broadmoor (8992)  
8.30 Film: Walk Tili Your Mother Gets Home (1982). Off-repeat role-reversal comedy starring Paul Michael Glaser as a unemployed football coach who stays at home to look after the children while his wife goes out to work. With Dee Wallace. Directed by Bill Persky. (Teletext) (64132176)  
10.15 Miles To Go (b/w).  
● CHOICE: The last in the series gives women the chance to refuse all the nasty things said about them in previous programmes. For of them line up tonight with the men from last week. It makes for a crowded studio and an overheated discussion in which too many people are at odds. The programme is a far from a fortnight's past with Ros declaring that all men are trained to manipulate a woman. Virginia saying she has rarely met a man who is honest. In the circumstances the chaps are surprisingly conciliatory. What the series has demonstrated, beyond the fact that some men are pig and some are not, is that the men are not so different from the women as they are portrayed. From specific cases which may or may not be



**Starting a new life in America: Viveca Lindfors (12.55am)**

**12.55am Film: Misplaced (1991).** Louis Yarnsen's semi-autobiographical tale of a woman and her teenage son who leave Poland during the Solidarity strike in 1981 and head for a new life in the United States. Starring John Cramerton Mitchell, Ebbelise Czayewska and Viveca Lindfors (1947-2007). Ends at 2.40.

**VideoShare and the Video PlusCode**

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus™ handset. VideoShare can be used with most video, or tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoShare on 0800 121 1204 (only charged at 40p per minute plus 36p off-peak) or write to VideoShare, Acornnet Ltd, 9 Ivory House, Harewood Heath, London SW11 3TN, VideoShare™ (TM), Pluscode™ (TM) and Video Programmer™ are trademarks of Gramercy Marketing Ltd.

Action	5.05-
5 (534)	2000

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7.00 Blockbusters (534) 7.30-8.00 Nature  
Watch (718) 10.40 Married with Children  
(595466) 11.10 Premier Call Block H  
Fishing (824) 6.30 A Joy to Drive (854466)  
7.05 News in 25 (501331) 7.15 Hero  
(112022) 8.00 Search: The Game (1000)

**RADIO 4**

**6.00am** News Briefing and 6.03  
Weather 6.10 Farming Today  
7.00 The Prayer for the Day 8.30  
Today and 6.30-7.00, 7.30,  
8.00, 8.30 News & 6.45 Business  
News 6.55, 7.25 Weather  
7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45  
Thought for the Day 8.45 A  
Manchester Guardian Mail: A  
Long Weekend with  
J.M. Barrie 9.55 Weather 9.00  
News

**9.05** The Moral Maze with  
Michael Buerk

**9.30** Downton Abbey  
Downton's play Death and  
Dancing; and reports on an  
international community of  
artists in Devon (s)

**4.45** Short Story: Still Life. Written  
by Daragh Carrill and read by  
B.J. Hogg

**3.00** PM Shipping 3.55  
Weather

**6.00** Six O'Clock News  
**6.30** The Nick Reveal Show: Holy  
Warfare: A storm for the  
nietzsche (s)

**7.00** News 7.05 The Archers (s)

documentary gives belated recognition to Audrey Russell for breaking down radio

**15** The Bible: (6) read for assistance to using women as commentators on great state occasions. These include the funeral of Winston Churchill and the marriage and coronation of the Queen. Few women broadcasters have followed the path which Russell took through male territory. It seems possible, though, that when Kate Adie gets her big chance to shine as a state commentator, she'll find Russell's empty shoes comfortable fit for the long

**40 The Archers (s) (r) 1.55**

[illegible]

**EQUENCES:** Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8, 100.2-100.4, 100.6-100.8, 101.0-101.2, 101.4-101.6, 101.8-102.0, 102.2-102.4, 102.6-102.8, 103.0-103.2, 103.4-103.6, 103.8-104.0, 104.2-104.4, 104.6-104.8, 105.0-105.2, 105.4-105.6, 105.8-106.0, 106.2-106.4, 106.6-106.8, 107.0-107.2, 107.4-107.6, 107.8-108.0, 108.2-108.4, 108.6-108.8, 109.0-109.2, 109.4-109.6, 109.8-110.0, 110.2-110.4, 110.6-110.8, 111.0-111.2, 111.4-111.6, 111.8-112.0, 112.2-112.4, 112.6-112.8, 113.0-113.2, 113.4-113.6, 113.8-114.0, 114.2-114.4, 114.6-114.8, 115.0-115.2, 115.4-115.6, 115.8-116.0, 116.2-116.4, 116.6-116.8, 117.0-117.2, 117.4-117.6, 117.8-118.0, 118.2-118.4, 118.6-118.8, 119.0-119.2, 119.4-119.6, 119.8-120.0, 120.2-120.4, 120.6-120.8, 121.0-121.2, 121.4-121.6, 121.8-122.0, 122.2-122.4, 122.6-122.8, 123.0-123.2, 123.4-123.6, 123.8-124.0, 124.2-124.4, 124.6-124.8, 125.0-125.2, 125.4-125.6, 125.8-126.0, 126.2-126.4, 126.6-126.8, 127.0-127.2, 127.4-127.6, 127.8-128.0, 128.2-128.4, 128.6-128.8, 129.0-129.2, 129.4-129.6, 129.8-130.0, 130.2-130.4, 130.6-130.8, 131.0-131.2, 131.4-131.6, 131.8-132.0, 132.2-132.4, 132.6-132.8, 133.0-133.2, 133.4-133.6, 133.8-134.0, 134.2-134.4, 134.6-134.8, 135.0-135.2, 135.4-135.6, 135.8-136.0, 136.2-136.4, 136.6-136.8, 137.0-137.2, 137.4-137.6, 137.8-138.0, 138.2-138.4, 138.6-138.8, 139.0-139.2, 139.4-139.6, 139.8-140.0, 140.2-140.4, 140.6-140.8, 141.0-141.2, 141.4-141.6, 141.8-142.0, 142.2-142.4, 142.6-142.8, 143.0-143.2, 143.4-143.6, 143.8-144.0, 144.2-144.4, 144.6-144.8, 145.0-145.2, 145.4-145.6, 145.8-146.0, 146.2-146.4, 146.6-146.8, 147.0-147.2, 147.4-147.6, 147.8-148.0, 148.2-148.4, 148.6-148.8, 149.0-149.2, 149.4-149.6, 149.8-150.0, 150.2-150.4, 150.6-150.8, 151.0-151.2, 151.4-151.6, 151.8-152.0, 152.2-152.4, 152.6-152.8, 153.0-153.2, 153.4-153.6, 153.8-154.0, 154.2-154.4, 154.6-154.8, 155.0-155.2, 155.4-155.6, 155.8-156.0, 156.2-156.4, 156.6-156.8, 157.0-157.2, 157.4-157.6, 157.8-158.0, 158.2-158.4, 158.6-158.8, 159.0-159.2, 159.4-159.6, 159.8-160.0, 160.2-160.4, 160.6-160.8, 161.0-161.2, 161.4-161.6, 161.8-162.0, 162.2-162.4, 162.6-162.8, 163.0-163.2, 163.4-163.6, 163.8-164.0, 164.2-164.4, 164.6-164.8, 165.0-165.2, 165.4-165.6, 165.8-166.0, 166.2-166.4, 166.6-166.8, 167.0-167.2, 167.4-167.6, 167.8-168.0, 168.2-168.4, 168.6-168.8, 169.0-169.2, 169.4-169.6, 169.8-170.0, 170.2-170.4, 170.6-170.8, 171.0-171.2, 171.4-171.6, 171.8-172.0, 172.2-172.4, 172.6-172.8, 173.0-173.2, 173.4-173.6, 173.8-174.0, 174.2-174.4, 174.6-174.8, 175.0-175.2, 175.4-175.6, 175.8-176.0, 176.2-176.4, 176.6-176.8, 177.0-177.2, 177.4-177.6, 177.8-178.0, 178.2-178.4, 178.6-178.8, 179.0-179.2, 179.4-179.6, 179.8-180.0, 180.2-180.4, 180.6-180.8, 181.0-181.2, 181.4-181.6, 181.8-182.0, 182.2-182.4, 182.6-182.8, 183.0-183.2, 183.4-183.6, 183.8-184.0, 184.2-184.4, 184.6-184.8, 185.0-185.2, 185.4-185.6, 185.8-186.0, 186.2-186.4, 186.6-186.8, 187.0-187.2, 187.4-187.6, 187.8-188.0, 188.2-188.4, 188.6-188.8, 189.0-189.2, 189.4-189.6, 189.8-190.0, 190.2-190.4, 190.6-190.8, 191.0-191.2, 191.4-191.6, 191.8-192.0, 192.2-192.4, 192.6-192.8, 193.0-193.2, 193.4-193.6, 193.8-194.0, 194.2-194.4, 194.6-194.8, 195.0-195.2, 195.4-195.6, 195.8-196.0, 196.2-196.4, 196.6-196.8, 197.0-197.2, 197.4-197.6, 197.8-198.0, 198.2-198.4, 198.6-198.8, 199.0-199.2, 199.4-199.6, 199.8-200.0, 200.2-200.4, 200.6-200.8, 201.0-201.2, 201.4-201.6, 201.8-202.0, 202.2-202.4, 202.6-202.8, 203.0-203.2, 203.4-203.6, 203.8-204.0, 204.2-204.4, 204.6-204.8, 205.0-205.2, 205.4-205.6, 205.8-206.0, 206.2-206.4, 206.6-206.8, 207.0-207.2, 207.4-207.6, 207.8-208.0, 208.2-208.4, 208.6-208.8, 209.0-209.2, 209.4-209.6, 209.8-210.0, 210.2-210.4, 210.6-210.8, 211.0-211.2, 211.4-211.6, 211.8-212.0, 212.2-212.4, 212.6-212.8, 213.0-213.2, 213.4-213.6, 213.8-214.0, 214.2-214.4, 214.6-214.8, 215.0-215.2, 215.4-215.6, 215.8-216.0, 216.2-216.4, 216.6-216.8, 217.0-217.2, 217.4-217.6, 217.8-218.0, 218.2-218.4, 218.6-218.8, 219.0-219.2, 219.4-219.6, 219.8-220.0, 220.2-220.4, 220.6-220.8, 221.0-221.2, 221.4-221.6, 221.8-222.0, 222.2-222.4, 222.6-222.8, 223.0-223.2, 223.4-223.6, 223.8-224.0, 224.2-224.4, 224

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# BUSINESS TIMES

THURSDAY AUGUST 27 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

No request for ERM realignment, states Bundesbank

## Intervention helps pound to hold firm

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A RENEWED pledge from the Chancellor to hold the pound square in the exchange-rate mechanism, backed by direct intervention in the currency markets, lifted sterling for the first time since severe downward pressure set in a week ago.

Despite market alarm over remarks from Reimut Jochimsen, a member of the Bundesbank's policy-making council, which suggested that the German central bank was in favour of a realignment of the ERM, the pound ended almost half a penny firmer. At the official 4pm London market close, it stood at DM2.7970.

Although well below its DM2.8040 high for the day, reached mid-morning after overt sales of marks for sterling at DM2.7940 by the Bank of England, the closing rate was the first day-on-day gain since Tuesday last week. It left sterling only a penny

down since Friday, when the present outbreak of currency turbulence was triggered by the virtual free fall of the dollar. Dealers' estimates of the amount of intervention ranged between £300 million and £1 billion.

The Treasury was encouraged by the better tone sterling had established, even though it remains only less than two pennings from its absolute mark floor in the ERM. With reduced pressure across the ERM, and British money market pressure easing, the Treasury considers the prospect of an increase in the base rate less likely.

In a brief breakfast-time appearance on the Treasury steps, Mr Lamont said there were going to be "no devaluations, no leaving the ERM". The government, he said, was "determined to maintain sterling's parity and we will do whatever is necessary", a remark taken in the City to

include the possibility of a base rate hike. But advance reports of a speech by Herr Jochimsen, president of the central bank in the German regional state of North-Rhine Westphalia, subsequently undid some of the beneficial impact of the British authorities' actions. He said the "partially-present potential for realignment" has been suppressed for prestige reasons for years. The pound, the dollar and other currencies fell on that news.

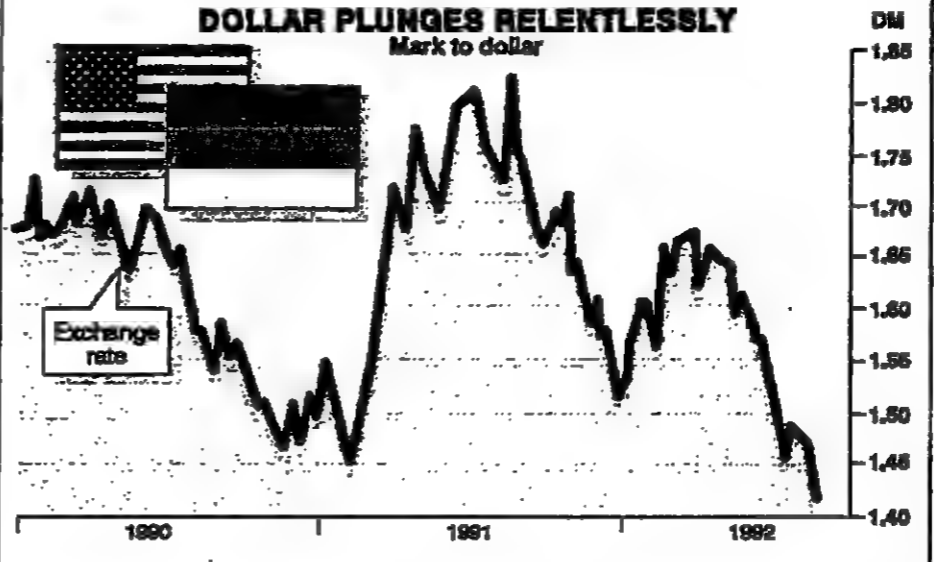
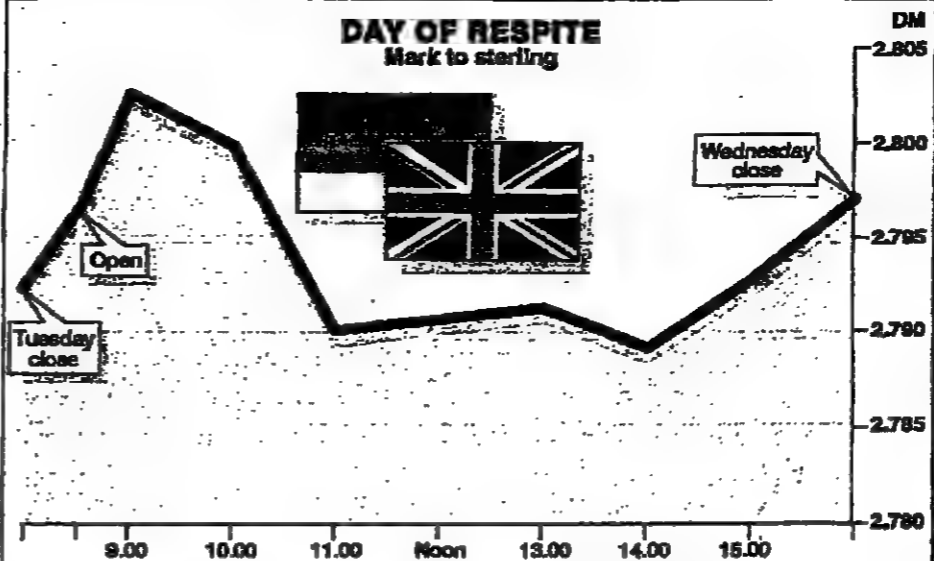
As council members' speeches are cleared by the Bundesbank, Herr Jochimsen's remarks were seen as an official attempt by the Bundesbank to float the idea of an ERM realignment. In London, the Treasury issued an immediate statement dismissing the idea that any ERM country wanted a realignment. The Bundesbank said later it was "not requesting a realignment". Mr Jochimsen clarified that there was "no immediate need" for parity changes.

Italy was also forced to intervene to defend the lira, while the Bank of France allowed overnight money rates to break through the informal 10 per cent ceiling in a move probably intended to ward off further pressure on the franc. Sweden and Finland, fearful of currency outflows to the mark, sharply raised key lending rates.

Poor market sentiment kept investors away from a £2.5 billion auction of long-dated government bonds. Although the issue was only covered 1.24 times, the authorities were likely to be pleased that the issue got away as well in the circumstances.

The dollar appeared to have consolidated above DM1.40, despite a sharp fall in orders for durable goods in America in July. The official data showed durable goods orders to factories slumping 3.4 per cent, the biggest drop in seven months, after a 2.8 per cent increase in June.

Lamont defence, page 1  
Failing to star, page 2  
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## City sees only a limited respite

By OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound's modest advance yesterday, despite the dismal economic backdrop, deep concern about European monetary union and a possible realignment of the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) currencies, left City opinion convinced that sterling has gained a respite, but only a limited one.

With the dollar stabilising close to the DM1.40, the general turbulence triggered by the American currency's free fall and central bank intervention is seen to have reduced some of the tension within the ERM.

But while many analysts believe the pound may be over the worst this side of the French referendum on September 20, the internal pressures of the ERM are by no means expected to disappear. Indeed, they are expected to reappear with renewed vigour after the French vote. Al-

though David Simmonds, currency analyst at Midland Montagu, thought Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, had failed to impress the markets with his reaffirmation of the government's commitment to stay in the ERM and not devalue, he believed sterling had reached the point where its downside was very limited. Mr Simmonds considers it relatively easy for the Bank of England to hold sterling just above its absolute ERM floor against the mark for the rest of this week and probably until the French referendum. He notes that there are virtually no important economic data until mid-September, which should help take the spotlight off sterling.

Avinash Persaud, currency economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, said sterling had "escaped for the day and is likely to get through to September 20 at around present levels."

## WH Smith rides recession with 26 per cent profit rise

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SIR Simon Hornby, chairman of WH Smith, the diversified high street retailer, says there is no magic wand that will end the recession.

The group would have to look to improved economies of scale and higher productivity while the tough trading climate lasts, but he was confident that WH Smith's strengths would continue to bring solid results.

In the year ended May 30, group sales rose by 8 per cent to £2.13 billion and pre-tax profits advanced by 26.6 per cent to £112.7 million. The final dividend is lifted from 8.5p to 9.1p a share, making 13.4p (12.5p) a share.

"In a year of deep recession, the group's businesses performed well, and we have increased virtually all our market shares," Sir Simon added.

Net profits benefited from a lower than expected tax charge and net earnings were 11.7 per cent higher at 31.5p a share. WH Smith shares rose 15p to 376p.

WH Smith retail increased its share of the video, stationery, magazines, book and greetings cards markets, and the group's distribution businesses had generally performed well. The video market continues to show good growth. The computer games market was particularly strong. DIY was, however, a difficult area, reflecting a depressed house market and intense price wars.

The group is planning to expand operations in America, though this would be a "step by step" approach. WH Smith had ambitions in Europe, but the preference for

any further development there is for joint ventures, Sir Simon added. He said: "We have nothing to fear" from the MMC enquiry into newspaper distribution arrangements, and does not view it as a threat to WH Smith. He reiterated his belief that the net book agreement works for the public good, and contends that without such an agreement the price of books would rise.

Do It All, the joint venture with Boots, had a difficult year in a depressed market, but in a total market that fell 9 per cent, WH Smith office supplies again outperformed, achieving a 10 per cent increase in sales. The division had won 67 new accounts worth £12 million a year.

Tempus, page 20

## Insurers braced for storm claims

By PATRICIA TEJAN

INSURERS today begin counting the cost of Hurricane Andrew, which has turned inland and is beginning to run out of steam after narrowly missing New Orleans, Louisiana.

Experts estimate that damage in Florida over the past few days could reach \$8 billion, with insured damage of between \$3 billion and \$4 billion. Claims from Louisiana would take the figure higher.

Officials of the US Property Claims Service said it would be impossible to put a definite cost on the devastation until the beginning of next week. The estimates compare with the \$5.8 billion insured cost of Hurricane Hugo, which swept through the Caribbean in September 1989.

Damage to BP's oil refinery in Belle Chase, near New Orleans, is believed to be limited: a team of inspectors from the company has still to report back. BP is self-insured and so will bear the cost itself. Ninety-one staff were evacuated from ten BP oil platforms; the company is trying to fly them back in.

The platforms produce 15,000 barrels of oil per day between them. By last night, two days' production had been lost.

Insurance companies breathed a sigh of relief as the storm missed the heavily populated area of New Orleans; it hit the coast at Morgan City, further south west.

Terry Hayday, chief executive of Sturge group's insurance division, said American insurance companies with large market shares in the area are likely to pick up a substantial percentage of the losses.

State Farm Group, which has a market share of about 20 per cent, has no reinsurance and will bear losses itself. Lloyd's and the London company insurance market will pick up about a quarter of the reinsurance cost.

At Lloyd's of London, marine underwriters were bracing themselves for claims from oil companies as reports of damaged refineries and oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico flooded in. One broker said marine underwriters' losses would be larger than after Hurricane Hugo.

Grand Metropolitan closed the American headquarters of Burger King, in Miami. Indefinitely. The building is badly damaged.

### TODAY IN BUSINESS

#### WOMANPOWER



More women are reaching the boardrooms of Britain's companies, but appointment to the top executive positions remains elusive. Page 21

#### NEWS CORP UP

UK newspapers have helped The News Corporation to a 52 per cent increase in pre-tax profits. Page 19

#### AIR PROTEST



Five of America's leading airlines are protesting at British Airways' bid for a "stranglehold" on 55 million US passengers. Page 18

#### WASTE TO FUEL

British Nuclear Fuels is planning to build a 100 tonne plutonium waste recycling plant by 1998 at Sellafield in Cumbria. Page 18

#### VAT LUNACY



Mr Justice Cocklecarrot stalks the nonsensical and intricate world of VAT tribunals. Robert Bruce writes. Page 23

#### THE POUND

US dollar 1.9841 (-0.0094)  
German mark 2.7970 (+0.0047)  
Exchange index 92.3 (same)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

#### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1676.2 (-4.8)  
FT-SE 100 2285.0 (+4.0)  
New York Dow Jones 3243.57 (+11.35)\*  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 16541.65 (+160.88)

#### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10%  
3-month interbank: 10%-10.5%  
3-month electric bill: 10%-10.5%  
US: Prime Rate: 9%  
Federal Funds: 3%  
3-month Treasury bill: 3.16-3.16%  
30-year bonds: 97%-97%

#### CURRENCIES

London: New York  
£ \$1.9855  
£ DM2.7927  
£ Sfr 2.5004  
£ FF9.5275  
£ Yen 124.92  
£ Index 92.3  
ECU: £0.726154  
£ ECU1.377118  
London Forex market close

#### GOLD

London: Fixing  
AM \$340.35 PM \$338.50  
Close \$339.50-339.00  
£170.25-170.75  
New York: Comex \$ 339.05-339.55

#### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) \$19.80/bbl (\$19.75)

#### RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 136.8 July (1987=100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

## Ten investors considering offers for Canary Wharf

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE administrators to Olympia & York's Canary Wharf development, in London's Docklands, said they hoped it would be only "a matter of weeks" before expressions of interest in the £1.4 billion project were translated into definite offers.

Investors, however, were warned that they would not have the opportunity to "buy things on the cheap". Canary Wharf went into administration three months ago, owing about £630 million. Ten parties are considering making offers and have entered into confidentiality agreements with the administrators.

Stephen Adamson, Alan Bloom and Nigel Hamilton, the administrators from Ernst & Young, confirmed that Ca-

nary Wharf's creditors had voted this week to continue the administration process, in line with Ernst & Young's proposals.

Mr Adamson said the European Investment Bank, which has already invested £100 million in Canary Wharf, was thinking of putting in more cash to help meet the government's demand for £400 million for the Jubilee Underground line extension.

Mr Adamson said the bank would demand "a level of comfort" before lending any more cash to the project. One of Canary Wharf's bankers said syndicate members would fight any new investment that usurped their positions as first secured lenders. A £280 million claim by Credit Suisse

First Boston, relating to its building on Canary Wharf's Cabot Square, was being considered, Mr Adamson said. The claim related to contractual obligations on matters such as rent and occupancy levels. Time was not of the essence and he hoped the dispute could be settled amicably. Meantime, CSFB was supporting the administration.

Creditors had expressed concern about "several tens of millions of pounds" of performance bonds still in existence which meant contractors incurred steep bank fees. Mr Adamson said they planned to discharge those contracts where it did not detract from the value of the development and the overall benefit to creditors.

Tempus, page 20

## GRE halves losses to £39 million

By OUR CITY STAFF

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange, the composite insurance group, has provided further evidence that the UK insurance market began a strong recovery in the first half of the year in announcing that it has more than halved its losses for the six months to end-June. The deficit before tax was reduced from £88 million to £39 million, of which mortgage indemnity and IRA bomb damage accounted for £26 million. The group traded profitably in the second quarter of the year.

UK underwriting losses fell by £55 million to £125 million. Interim dividend is reduced from 4.4p to 2.5p.

Tempus, page 20

## How Budgie could wake Sleepy Kids

By MATTHEW BOWEN

JOHN Bryan's recent sojourn in St Tropez may have done little to enhance his reputation as a financial adviser, but the Duchess of York may yet be indebted to her friend for a visit to the Côte d'Azur earlier this year.

For it was at the Cannes film festival that Mr Bryan found the Duchess a buyer for the film and merchandising rights to her *Budgie the Little Helicopter* books. That buyer was Sleepy Kids, the USM animation and merchandising company. The small print of the deal has become one of the few secrets the Duchess has left. Yesterday, Sleepy Kids was doing its utmost to keep it that way.

There was, however, the £300,000 that the company seemed to need in a hurry. Exercising the *Budgie* option at a time when the company was making a loss had "placed a severe strain upon the group's financial resources". According-



Film deal: details remain secret

has been no bad publicity about *Budgie the Helicopter*. The company had been "inundated" with merchandising proposals, he added, and anyway, there were lots of authors of children's books in the past who had led interesting lives.

The board was in accord about the company's *Budgie*-enhanced future. "The directors cannot over-emphasize the importance of this, in order for the group to benefit from the immediate income which is expected to flow from the merchandising of *Budgie*."

Mr Powell said firm commitments for about 2.2 million shares have already been received from "institutions and high net worth individuals". But he did not believe the Duchess had received any financial advice that might lead to her granting the company's shareholder registers. That may be one of her wiser decisions, as Sleepy Kids yesterday announced an interim pre-tax loss of £109,000 and passed its dividend.

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## BNFL may build recycling plant

By Patricia Tehan

BRITISH Nuclear Fuels is planning a mixed oxide fuel plant costing tens of millions of pounds to turn its plutonium waste stockpile into fuel.

Neville Chamberlain, BNFL chief executive, said a decision on whether to apply for planning permission for a plant on its site at Sellafield, Cumbria, would be made by the end of the year.

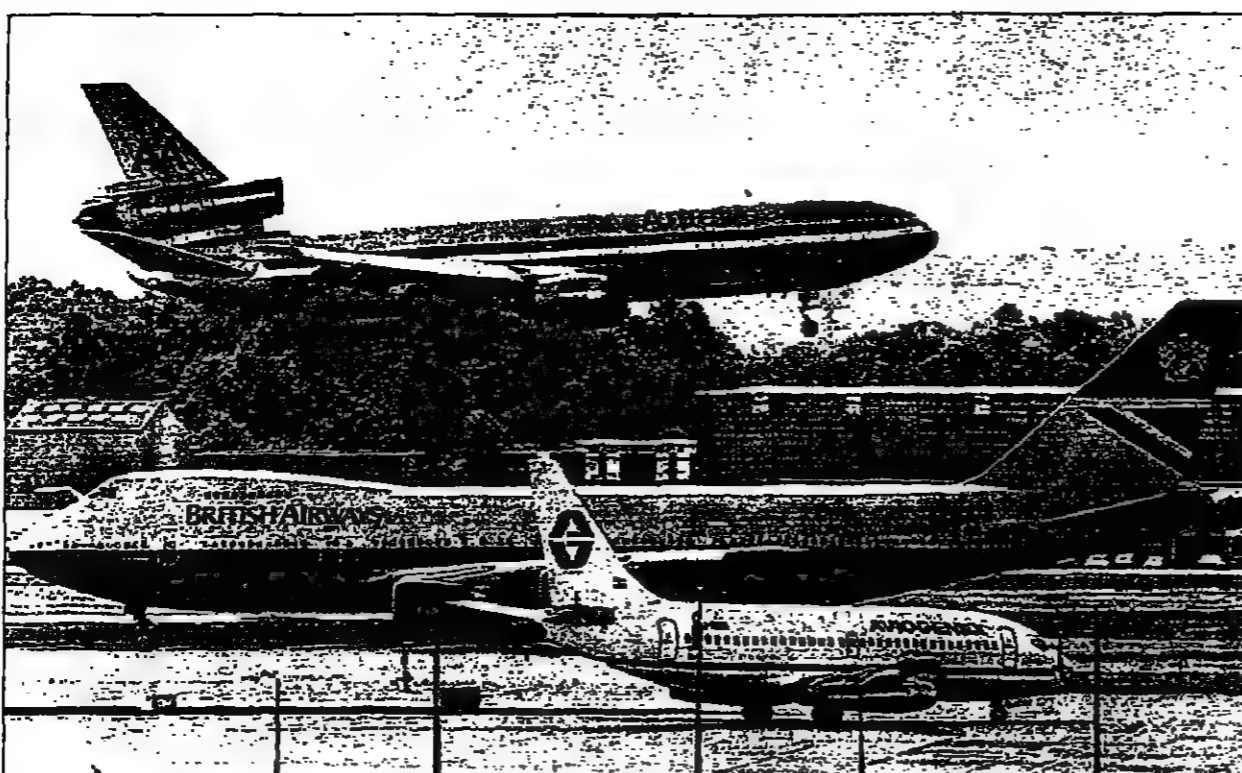
The company has a pilot plant with eight tonnes a year capacity, which comes into operation next spring. The decision on the new 100 tonne plant, which would be running by 1993, hangs on the level of demand from customers. So far, the Japanese and Germans are showing the strongest interest.

BNFL revealed the plans yesterday when John Guinness, the new chairman, unveiled the state-owned nuclear power plant operator's annual report. Mr Guinness, former permanent undersecretary at the energy department, replaced Sir Christopher Harding on July 1.

Profits were £5 million higher in the financial year to March 31, at £161 million, on turnover of £40 million, an increase of £1.08 billion, BNFL is paying a £52 million dividend to the government, its sole shareholder.

Mr Guinness said overseas business was growing. In the financial year, exports sales grew 50 per cent to £268 million.

Mr Chamberlain said BNFL expects its staffing levels to fall by about 1,000 to less than 15,000 in the next few years.



Gatwick encounter: BA claims American carriers have more access to the UK than it is allowed in America

## US rivals denounce BA deal

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

FIVE of the most powerful airlines in America have joined forces to attack the proposal by British Airways to take a \$750 million stake in USAir.

United, American, Delta, Federal Express and United Parcel Service say, in a strongly worded document sent to the US Department of Transportation and key Washington decision makers, that the US government must not approve this transaction.

The agreement, they maintain, would give BA effective control of USAir and is an illegal takeover of control of a major US carrier by a foreign interest.

They argue that the proposed deal would give BA

access to the entire American air transport market without giving American airlines anything in return. It would "make it impossible for US airlines to compete on an equal basis in the transatlantic market and undermine the ability of the United States to negotiate free aviation markets around the world."

The airlines hope to play on America's growing unemployment problem during the run-up to the presidential election by raising fears of further job losses in the struggling aviation industry.

"For more than 50 years, US law and precedent have prohibited foreign interests from owning or controlling US airlines," they state. The

"illegal" acquisition would make USAir, in effect, the American division of British Airways. BA would have the right to "dictate" executive appointments, markets to be targeted, aircraft purchases and prices.

The message describes the deal as a "backdoor attempt by British Airways to achieve in the United States what its own government will not permit for US carriers on a bilateral, reciprocal basis."

It would give BA not a "tokenhold" in the American market but a "potential stranglehold over access to 55 million USAir passengers and 200 million tons of air cargo a year."

Both USAir and BA reject the claims and remain confident that the deal will win transportation department approval before the Christmas Eve deadline.

Technically, BA would hold only a 44 per cent stake in the airline and 21 per cent of voting rights. But several clauses would give it wide-ranging powers to ensure that USAir's operations fitted in with its own.

In a response being circulated, the two airlines say their American opponents "must be stopped from putting their special interests before the public interest."

They argue that American carriers already have greater access to UK and European markets than European ones are allowed in America.

## HK price advances after rise in profits

From Lulu Yu in Hong Kong

CATHAY Pacific, Hong Kong's flag-carrying airline, announced a 13 per cent rise in net profits to HK\$1.26 billion (£90 million) for the six months to June 30.

Wharf Holdings, a property, transport and hotels group controlled by the family of the late Sir Y. K. Pao, recorded higher net profits of HK\$900.8 million. In addition, there was an extraordinary gain of HK\$56.7 million from disposal of investments.

Cathay's results bode well for Swire Pacific, its parent group, which announces its interim results today. Swire focuses on property and aviation, and is expected to report sharp earnings growth.

Swire Properties, a subsidiary of Swire Pacific, said it had given the Kwok family's Sun Hung Kai Properties an option to acquire from Swire an industrial site for a minimum of HK\$75 million during 1993.

Cathay Pacific is forecast to increase profits by 13 to 18 per cent this year. Peter Sutcliffe, chairman, said second-quarter revenue was below expectations, especially in Hong Kong and Japan. There had been strong growth in Taiwan but the UK and Australia were depressed.

Which followed the announcement of a 51 per cent interim profit rise by HSBC Holdings, parent company of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the Hang Seng index leapt 187 points, or 3.5 per cent, to close at 5,478.

World markets, page 20

## IoD promotes employee share ownership

THE Institute of Directors is opening a government-backed campaign to promote the spread of employee share ownership. The employers' group believes that giving workers a financial stake promotes the business development.

Stephen Dorrell, financial secretary to the Treasury, will launch the initiative, and new IoD guidelines on employee share ownership schemes, at a conference to be mounted by the IoD in October.

Peter Morgan, director general of the IoD, said the 1980s privatisation programme had increased share ownership and employee involvement. "Our objective is to accelerate the process and demonstrate that if more employees and directors can be encouraged to make a long-term investment in the companies for which they work, real benefits will flow for individuals, companies and the UK economy."

## UUS edges ahead

UNITED Uniform Services, a manufacturer and supplier of uniforms in America, reported pre-tax profits of £1.46 million (£1.42 million) in the six months to end-June. Turnover increased to £26.3 million (£24.6 million). Earnings per share increased 8 per cent to 4.2p (3.9p), with dollar profits being translated at an average exchange rate of \$1.79 to the pound. There is an unchanged interim dividend of 1p. Gross profit margins on sales slipped from 34.4 per cent to 33.7 per cent, but the fall has been offset by cost cuts.

## Daniels loss deepens

S DANIELS, a supplier of food and drink products, saw pre-tax losses deepen from £8,000 to £105,000 in the half year to end-June after a disappointing second quarter. Turnover slipped to £15.7 million (£16.0 million). The loss per share is 0.7p (0.7p) and there is no interim dividend (nil). After exceeding targets for the first quarter, sales and margins suffered in the second quarter. Trading conditions continue to be difficult in the independent bakery sector.

World markets, page 20

## Mallett swings into red

MALLETT, the London antique dealer, plunged from a pre-tax profit of £680,000 to a loss of £485,000 in the six months to end-June. Turnover fell to £3.0 million (£4.9 million). There is a loss per share of 3.51p (3.25p profit) and no interim dividend (1.5p). The slump was blamed on a drop in trade. Staff numbers have been reduced 20 per cent since the year end. The company said conditions were the worst since the second world war. The shares fell 17p to 35p.

## THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Unit	Offer	YTD	YTD	Unit	Offer	YTD	YTD	Unit	Offer	YTD	YTD	Unit	Offer	YTD	YTD	Unit	Offer	YTD	YTD
ABBAY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				Capital Games Unit Trust				Fidelity Investment Services				Las Unit Trust Managers				ProFund Unit Trust Managers			
ABBAY 1000	100.00	100.00	100.00	Capital Games 1000	100.00	100.00	100.00	Fidelity 1000	100.00	100.00	100.00	Las 1000	100.00	100.00	100.00	ProFund 1000	100.00	100.00	100.00
ABBAY 2000	200.00	200.00	200.00	Capital Games 2000	200.00	200.00	200.00	Fidelity 2000	200.00	200.00	200.00	Las 2000	200.00	200.00	200.00	ProFund 2000	200.00	200.00	200.00
ABBAY 3000	300.00	300.00	300.00	Capital Games 3000	300.00	300.00	300.00	Fidelity 3000	300.00	300.00	300.00	Las 3000	300.00	300.00	300.00	ProFund 3000	300.00	300.00	300.00
ABBAY 4000	400.00	400.00	400.00	Capital Games 4000	400.00	400.00	400.00	Fidelity 4000	400.00	400.00	400.00	Las 4000	400.00	400.00	400.00	ProFund 4000	400.00	400.00	400.00
ABBAY 5000	500.00	500.00	500.00	Capital Games 5000	500.00	500.00	500.00	Fidelity 5000	500.00	500.00	500.00	Las 5000	500.00	500.00	500.00	ProFund 5000	500.00	500.00	500.00
ABBAY 6000	600.00	600.00	600.00	Capital Games 6000	600.00	600.00	600.00	Fidelity 6000	600.00	600.00	600.00	Las 6000	600.00	600.00	600.00	ProFund 6000	600.00	600.00	600.00
ABBAY 7000	700.00	700.00	700.00	Capital Games 7000	700.00	700.00	700.00	Fidelity 7000	700.00	700.00	700.00	Las 7000	700.00	700.00	700.00	ProFund 7000	700.00	700.00	700.00
ABBAY 8000	800.00	800.00	800.00	Capital Games 8000	800.00	800.00	800.00	Fidelity 8000	800.00	800.00	800.00	Las 8000	800.00	800.00	800.00	ProFund 8000	800.00	800.00	800.00
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ABBAY 10000	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	Capital Games 10000	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity 10000	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	Las 10000	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	ProFund 10000	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00
ABBAY 11000	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	Capital Games 11000	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	Fidelity 11000	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	Las 11000	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	ProFund 11000	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00
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ABBAY 18000	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00	Capital Games 18000	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00	Fidelity 18000	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00	Las 18000	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00	ProFund 18000	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00
ABBAY 19000	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	Capital Games 19000	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	Fidelity 19000	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	Las 19000	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	ProFund 19000	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00
ABBAY 20000	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	Capital Games 20000	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	Fidelity 20000	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	Las 20000	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	ProFund 20000	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00
ABBAY 21000	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00	Capital Games 21000	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00	Fidelity 21000	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00	Las 21000	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00	ProFund 21000	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00
ABBAY 22000	2200.00	2200.00	2200.00	Capital Games 22000	2200.00	2200.00	2200.00	Fidelity 22000	2200.00	2200.00	2200.00	Las 22000	2200.00	2200.00	2200.00	ProFund 22000	2200.00	2200.00	2200.00
ABBAY 23000	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00	Capital Games 23000	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00	Fidelity 23000	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00	Las 23000	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00	ProFund 23000	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00
ABBAY 24000	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00	Capital Games 24000	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00	Fidelity 24000	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00	Las 24000	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00	ProFund 24000	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00
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ABBAY 28000	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	Capital Games 28000	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	Fidelity 28000	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	Las 28000	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	ProFund 28000	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00
ABBAY 29000	2900.00	2900.00	2900.00	Capital Games 29000	2900.00	2900.00	2900.00	Fidelity 29000	2900.00	2900.00	2900.00	Las 29000	2900.00	2900.00	2900.00	ProFund 29000	2900.00	2900.00	2900.00
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ABBAY 31000	3100.00	3100.00	3100.00	Capital Games 31000	3100.00	3100.00	3100.00	Fidelity 31000	3100.00	3100.00	3100.00	Las 31000	3100.00	3100.00	3100.00	ProFund 31000	3100.00	3100.00	3100.00
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ABBAY 40000	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00	Capital Games 40000	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00	Fidelity 40000	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00	Las 40000	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00	ProFund 40000	4000.00	4000.00	4000.00
ABBAY 41000	4100.00	4100.00	4100.00	Capital Games 41000	4100.00	4100.00	4100.00	Fidelity 41000	4100.00	4100.00	4100.00	Las 41000	4100.00	4100.00	4100.00	ProFund 41000	4100.00	4100.00	4100.00
ABBAY 42000	4200.00	4200.00	4200.00	Capital Games 42000	4200.00	4200.00	4200.00	Fidelity 42000	4200.00	4200.00	4200.00	Las 42000	4200.00	4200.00	4200.00	ProFund 42000	4200.00	4200.00	4200.00
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ABBAY 50000	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	Capital Games 50000	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	Fidelity 50000	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	Las 50000	5000.00	5000.00	500				



## Stable dollar and bonds help Dow to early gain

**Sir Simon Hornby, chair-**

million despite £10 million on

**Strong performers:** Sir Simon Hornby, left, and Sir Malcolm Field of WH Smith

Vernon Partridge, of Carr Kitchat and Aitken, suggests a realistic asset value may be marginally shy of the share price. The shares are still well worth holding.

**CONSIDERING** the astonishing brouhaha that threatened to engulf Wace in February, it is remarkable that the printing services company found time to make any profits at all.

That it managed to hold

there was no defying the British slump, where fierce competition, especially in commercial litho printing, saw operating profits drop 37 per cent to £4.3 million.

look interesting again.

Strains Times industrial index rose 31.62 points, or 2.36 percent, to 1,370.53.

□ Sydney — Shares recovered three quarters of the losses sustained in Tuesday's global rout to close sharply higher. The all-ordinaries index closed 17 points higher at 1,534.4.

□ Frankfurt — Shares ended mixed. Prices were buffeted by positive corporate news, negative inflation data and arbitrage trade against the future on the 30-share Dax index. But the Dax bounced back to end 4.37 points higher at 1,473.28. (Reuters)

George W. Bush

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## Share prices are helped by steadier sterling

The continued absence of consumer confidence continues to weigh heavily on most retailers and partly accounted for an early fall of 7p in

The building sector remained under a cloud with County NatWest, the broker,

Commercial Union dipped 2p to 446p and General Accident 2p to 407p. But there were gains elsewhere in

**MICHAEL CLARK**

Dow Chemicals	30%	30%	NA, International
Dynalene	23	30	Wardsworth
Dresser	19	20	Norfolk Star
Enbridge Power	24	25	Missouri State
Exxon & Amstar	26	28	Norwest
Ex. Post	30	30	Hymex Corp.
Freemantle Kodak	40	40	Occidental P.
GenCorp	73	70	Ohio Edison

28	24	Wentworth	16	16
34	22	Weychester	33	32
54	23	Whitpool	24	24
43	43	Whitman	12	12
34	35	Wilbur Ohio	44	44
44	36	Woodstock	29	29
14	18	Wrigley (Wm) Jr	65	53
22	22	Xerox	74	74

10

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 92.3 (day's range 92.2-92.4).				
Mkt Rates for Aug 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3,141.4-3,159.0	3,146.2-3,149.8	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
Bremen	7,465-7,482	7,570-7,592	4-1 1/2	17-12 1/2
Copenhagen	10,780-10,853	10,780-10,853	4-1 1/2	20-24 1/2
Dublin	1,058.0-1,061.0	1,053.3-1,060	1 1/2-1 1/2	11-13 1/2
Frankfurt	7,787.1-7,802.0	7,709.9-7,794	1 1/2-1 1/2	17-18 1/2
London	242.36-243.5	242.36-243.5	4 1/2-1 1/2	14-16 1/2
Madrid	181.81-181.51	181.31-181.43	10-12 1/2	110-120 1/2
Paris	110.00-111.57	111.90-113.00	4-1 1/2	28-31 1/2
Montreal	2,362.2-2,366.8	2,351.0-2,353.8	1 1/2-1 1/2	13-13 1/2
New York	1,583.0-1,589.0	1,585.0-1,590	1 1/2-1 1/2	5.66-5.64 1/2
Osaka	1,039.0-1,039.0	1,049.0-1,053.8	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
Paris	9,059.9-9,343.9	9,200.0-9,350	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
San Francisco	1,039.0-1,039.0	1,049.0-1,053.8	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
Tokyo	247.31-248.49	247.31-248.49	4-1 1/2	10 1/2-12 1/2
Vienna	16.61-16.79	16.61-16.67	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
Zurich	2,492.6-2,503.8	2,499.7-2,500	1 1/2-1 1/2	1 1/2-1 1/2
Source: Babel			Premium + or - Discount + or -	
Argentina peso	1,967.8-1,970.8			
Australia			2.20 1/2-1.99 1/2	

rain ómar	0.743-0.752
di cruceiro *	9813.87-9819.21

[illegible]

Low: \$337.80-338.30      High: \$341.30-341.80  
Sovereigns: Old \$79.00-81.00 (\$39.75-40.75)      New \$82.00-83.00 (\$41.00-42.00)  
Platinum: \$351.40 (\$176.70)      Silver: \$1.56 (\$1.845)

## USAir deal runs into turbulence

The full power of the mighty US airline lobby is now ranged up against British Airways over its plans to invest \$750 million in the struggling USAir group. The battle promises to be a bloody one which BA must win if it is to maintain forward momentum in the next few years after the failure of planned links with Sabena, KLM and others including one of the protesters, United Airlines in the US. But the leading US carriers will do everything within their powers to block the entry of what is arguably the world's strongest (in a financial sense) and most profitable competitor into their market. The three airlines and two parcel delivery groups which have just launched a campaign to block BA-American, Delta, United, Federal Express and UPS, would all claim to be free traders in their dying breath. But like so many champions of competition, they waver when an aggressive newcomer appears inside their own back yard.

The "Nimby" five are characterising the USAir deal as a takeover of a sizable US carrier by a foreign interest in direct violation of laws that severely restrict non-American involvement in the transportation and media industries. In fact BA would not be allowed to exercise more than 25 per cent of the votes in USAir under existing American law, even though it will eventually own 44 per cent of USAir's common stock when its initial holdings of convertible stock are switched. BA would also have no more than a quarter of the seats on USAir's 16-man board, certainly not enough to give outright control. However, since BA clearly wishes to have some say in a massive investment, it will have certain blocking powers when some issues are before the board. This is likely to be the critical focus of legal arguments as the planned deal proceeds through the regulatory process.

Decisions on key matters of finance, budgeting and acquisition strategy will need a "super-majority" of 80 per cent of USAir's votes to approve them. BA may well have some powers of veto, but surely not even within the complex, of the American legal system does this amount to control.

Despite statements to the contrary, the British airline industry suspects that their US counterparts see an opportunity to lever concessions from Britain over access to domestic routes. The fact is that BA would revitalise USAir at a time when most leading US carriers are enfeebled by vast debts. British regulators will see through this at once.

## Hard funding

The government completed its auction of long-term debt yesterday, but only just. Bids rolled in at 1.24 times the £2.5 billion of Treasury 2017 84 per cent available. The lowest previous cover for an auction was 1.62 times. It has been as high as 4.5 times. The closeness of yesterday's auction is an early warning of how much difficulty the government could face in funding future borrowing, especially if the French vote against enactment of the Maastricht treaty and the stresses already apparent in the European rate mechanism become intolerable.

This year the government's borrowing requirement is estimated to reach between £30 billion and £32 billion by independent economists. Next year something more like £46 billion is forecast, ironically reaching 6 per cent of expected GDP, and on the scale of post-reunification German requirements.

A British deficit of these proportions will require a healthy pound to attract the overseas money needed to fund it. No one is taking bets on the pound's health ahead of the dreaded September 20 French vote. As one economist put it last night, present official British economic policy is to pray for a "yes" vote in France.

**Liz Dolan asks if the Opportunity 2000 campaign, launched last year, has cracked the glass ceiling over women's promotion**

When Louise Botting, the broadcaster and financial consultant, joined the main board of LWT Holdings this month, the words "token woman" sprang anew to the lips of the more cynical observers.

The problem is a common one for women who have spent their lives breaking new ground in previously all-male settings. Ms Botting has a number of "firsts" to her credit. In her twenties, she became the first female investment analyst at Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank. Five years ago, she became the first female member of the Top Salaries Review Board. In March this year, she became the first female director of General Accident, the insurance company.

The first woman on the board will always be in danger of attracting the "token" tag from which subsequent female appointees are saved. The problem is already diminishing slowly as more companies announce the appointment of female directors. While not yet a flood, there has been a definite increase in the number of women entering the boardroom over the past year, a move which may owe something to the launch of Opportunity 2000 last October.

As the numbers grow, more companies face the problem of whether to highlight the sex of their new board member. This is a thornier topic now than it was even a few years ago, when to appoint a woman was considered *per se* a "good thing". Nowadays, a growing number of companies will go out of their way to deny any past gender may have played in the selection process. Of Ms Botting's appointment, General Accident said: "We don't discriminate between men and women. It so happened Louise Botting had the background and pedigree. Her personal finance background will be an asset."

Of the appointment in January of Prue Leith, restaurateur and cookery writer, to the board of the Leeds Permanent building society, Malcolm Barr, the president, said: "Prue Leith was appointed to the board because of her remarkable business record, not because of her sex." Turning the subject on its head, he added: "However, in a world where men still dominate the boardroom, a woman needs to be especially talented or determined in order to succeed. She certainly has these qualities."

Some female high-flyers take the same line. One such is Mair Barnes, the managing director of Woolworth who became a non-executive director of Abbey National this year. She has always refused to discuss the fact she is a woman because she says she wants to be judged solely on her merits as a retailer. Others, such as



Sex appeal: Anna Vinton, Cadbury Schweppes director, believes women add a useful extra dimension

Anna Vinton, co-chairman of The Reject Shop group, are happy to discuss the point. Mrs Vinton says she was invited to join the board of Cadbury Schweppes 18 months ago purely because she was a woman.

She says: "The chairman [Sir Graham Day] is Canadian and very pro-women. When he arrived on the board, he took one look and said: 'Do something'. Women behave differently from men. They reason differently, and that adds a very useful extra dimension."

Mary Baker, who serves on the boards of Barclays, the Prudential, Avon and MFI, said: "A board is always looking for a range of experience from its non-executive directors. It is perfectly obvious a woman is going to have had different experiences from a man. A board without any representation from half the human race is going to be unbalanced. But the track record must stand up. You can't just go out on the street and take the first woman you find." Mrs Baker's first directorship

was with Thames Television. When she was appointed in 1975, the company was keen to develop its daytime television service. "They consciously wanted a woman with children at home who knew what people did during the day," she says.

Mrs Baker has been closely involved with equal opportunities legislation and is currently head of the "ginger" group, Women in Management. Any company that invites her on to its board is therefore making a tacit commitment to the career interests of the women on its staff.

She claims that Thames was the first corporation in this country formally to establish an equal opportunities policy. Barclays followed suit a few years later.

Barclays, she claims, has always had a first-rate woman in charge of the equal opportunities programme. "Right from the start, they have set targets and monitored progress. You

can initiate policies until the cows come home, but unless they're monitored at a senior level, you won't get results."

MFI, whose board she joined in June, is also "grasping the issue. It's very exciting. The chairman, Derek Hunt, is very committed to getting this movement going."

Mrs Vinton said: "Cadbury Schweppes is now actively looking for women to promote. They have identified the women with the ability to become executive directors in ten years' time. If they're very good, they could easily end up running the company."

Both Mrs Vinton and Mrs Baker are closely involved with Opportunity 2000. Mrs Vinton said: "Opportunity 2000 may have an effect on companies who have not been as forward-looking as Cadbury's. It's human nature to follow the crowd."

As more women choose to spend their entire adult life working in industry, a new breed of female director is emerging whose experi-

ence is closer to that of the men with whom they serve. The head of one leading company made it clear to colleagues recently that, although he was actively seeking a woman director, he did not want "one of the great and the good".

He wanted, and got, a career business woman, appointed solely for the expertise she had acquired as a high-powered company executive. "We knew what he meant," a spokesman for the company said. "He didn't want any of the 'if it's Tuesday it must be XYZ company' brigade. Or those who got the job because of their title, or because they're married to a famous name, or once sat on a committee."

Margaret Brewster of ProNed, which campaigns for the appointment of more non-executive directors of either sex, said: "As women's careers have progressed in the last few years, many have developed to the stage where they are ready to take on non-executive roles. They have reached a level in their own company where they can be released to take on other duties."

The Halifax building society, which has no female directors and no plans to appoint any, says most suitable candidates are still battling their way through to the upper echelons. David Gilchrist, general manager, said it took time for the effect of initiatives such as Opportunity 2000 to work its way through to board level. "Directors are chosen for what they can give to the board. Building societies nowadays are involved with more than mortgages. They have estate agents and European operations. The whole spectrum is there now."

The Woolwich obviously feels differently. It has just appointed its fourth female director. The first, Patricia Mann, a vice-president of J Walter Thompson, the advertising agency, has been on the board for ten years. A spokesman for the Woolwich said: "We have a very positive attitude to women. They make up 75 per cent of our staff. They also have the biggest single influence on homebuying and were one of the main reasons why the building society movement grew so fast in the seventies."

However, despite the welcome growth in new female non-executive directors, the real test is yet to come. That is, the appointment of women as executive directors. These are still a very rare breed.

A survey published by the Institute of Policy Studies last November found that women accounted for nearly 5 per cent of all UK company directors. However, according to the Crawfords Directory of City Connections, published at the beginning of this year, of the 4,000-plus top directors in the country — chairmen, chief executives, managing directors and finance directors — only 20 are women. And most of those are finance directors.

Mary Baker, veteran of numerous boards, said: "Right from the start, I have always felt that I was there as a non-executive, to hold the door open to women on the executive side, because that's where the real power lies."

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Taxing question for KPMG

IF THE Queen is really considering paying income tax on her personal wealth, as has been reported, the change will make an interesting variation in the work of KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountancy firm. KPMG is responsible for the annual audit of the privy purse and, so far, has not had to bother with anything as commonplace as taxes. According to KPMG, the choice of auditor is a personal appointment of the Queen and a member of the Peat family has filled the role since the reign of Edward VII. In 1987, the position passed to 42-year-old Michael Peat, who attended Eton and Oxford, and a KPMG partner, who, since 1990, has been seconded to the royal household and Buckingham Palace as director of finance and property services. According to Buckingham Palace, the "privy purse" includes all the Queen's private finances and income from the royal estates, excluding income from the Civil List. The Queen, who is estimated to have a fortune of about £5 billion, received £3.1 million last year from the Duchy of Lancaster alone. With taxes not a consideration in modern times, the preoccupation in the royal household in recent years has, as is well known, been controlling personal spending. "In every organisation, people have to think about efficiency and value for money and the royal household is no different," Mr Peat was quoted as saying when his secondment began.



Who better as the new head of Saab in Sweden than someone called Keith Butler-Wheelhouse? Evidently a man destined not to escape his name, Butler-Wheelhouse previously ran Delta Motor Corp in South Africa.

### Surrey soap

A SOAP opera called Guildford, full of intrigue and passion and littered with chaps in ten-gallon hats, may not sound the most likely scenario — but it may yet happen. Ranger Oil has just joined fellow oil companies Arco, Fina and Esso in moving its headquarters to Guildford, adding to the city's growing reputation as the Dallas of Surrey. Julian Methrell, a Ranger Oil spokesman, says oil companies and drillers have been

rushing to relocate near each other and have even set up the 0483 Club for oil men — 0483 is the telephone code for Guildford. Who will play the part of JR is still anybody's guess, but Methrell insists Fred J. Dymond, Ranger Oil's Canadian president, is not right for the role. "He doesn't wear a stetson, he's of medium build and quite slight, and I would suggest that he presides over a rather more harmonious managerial dynasty," Methrell says.

### Hedged bets

WHILE Wall Street is overwhelmingly backing George Bush for a second term as president, two of the biggest investment banks have hedged their bets with political donations. Goldman Sachs and Shearson Lehman have donated to both Bush and Bill Clinton, the Democratic candidate, but not in equal terms. According to the National Library on Money & Politics in Washington, Goldman, whose senior partner and co-chairman Robert Rubin, is mentioned as a likely Treasury secretary under a Clinton administration, has contributed \$98,700 to the Democrats, but only \$37,500 to the Republicans. By contrast, Shearson has chipped in \$23,000 to Bush and \$19,750 to Clinton. Contributing without a hedge: Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, First Boston, Dillon Read, Prudential Securities and PaineWebber. They have given Bush a total of \$190,500.

DEBRA ISAAC

## CBI has shown its commitment to solving problem of late payments

From Richard Brucciani

Sir, The Times cites the results of Trade Indemnity's Quarterly Industrial Trends Survey as evidence that the CBI's Code of Prompt Payment Practice is not working (Business Comment, August 18).

The prevalence of late payment is a long-standing problem and one which needs to be addressed from a number of angles. The Code of Practice launched in February is just one of the CBI's own initiatives in this area. Other activities include monitoring European Commission activity and lobbying for improvements in court procedures for debt recovery. We are also highlighting

the role companies themselves can play in avoiding payment problems through effective financial management. Trade Indemnity's survey showed that a quarter of respondents had updated overdue accounts procedures in the past three months, with more than one in five carrying out credit checks on customers. The CBI is keen to encourage the development of such practice and will shortly be launching a series of seminars on credit control.

The Code itself is having a significant impact in raising awareness of the late payment problem. Over 400 organisations have already pledged support for its principles, in-

cluding a number of large parent companies and trade associations — an indication of support on the part of many other businesses.

The CBI's efforts to ease the burden of late payment on small businesses stem from our strong commitment to this sector. Over two thirds of businesses represented by the CBI are smaller firms and we have therefore consistently taken a lead from our Smaller Firms Council in formulating policy on this issue.

We are pleased to note the support of The Times for our efforts to reduce delays in the courts. We have submitted a package of proposals to the Lord Chancellor, which we

believe could achieve major improvements in the efficiency and speed of the debt recovery system. But whilst it is certainly important that the legal system should provide an effective final recourse, we should not be deterred from trying to reduce the number of suppliers needing to go to court to obtain payment of a debt.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD BRUCCIANI,  
Chairman, CBI Smaller Firms Council,  
Confederation of British Industry,  
Centre Point,  
103 New Oxford Street,  
WC1.

## Pensioners abroad unjustly treated

From Mr J. R. Burges

Sir, The letter from Mr L. M. Courtenay (Business Letters, August 20) spoke of the denial to a UK retirement pensioner living abroad of any increase in the UK retirement pension introduced after the pensioner emigrated, even though all required contributions had been paid.

The justice of this restriction is not obvious — why should pensioners' choice of where to live affect their pension entitlement?

Falling a better explanation, the uncharitable might think that it rests on nothing more than cynical mean-mindedness, for such people have no UK votes and their interests can therefore be safely disregarded. So may I, through your columns, ask the Treasury, the Department of Social Security, or whoever has primary responsibility, to identify the statutory basis for the existence of the restriction and to spell out the logic justifying its imposition? Yours faithfully,  
J. R. BURGESS,  
Little Acre,  
Crossfield Place,  
Weybridge,  
Surrey.

## Funding pensions for full face value

From Mr John Langton

Sir, While agreeing with recent correspondents who claim that the Retail Price Index is not an appropriate basis for pension adjustment, I would just note the plight of many pensioners of major company schemes who have been lucky to receive discretionary increases of around 70 per cent of the annual movement of the RPI.

A relationship with the earnings index could give a more sensible basis for appraisal for all pensions but this is a forlorn hope for most of us.

## Good reasons to continue with the RPI

From Mr W. K. Duncan

Sir, I agree with Mr Carson (RPI and pensions) that the RPI is not obviously a good basis for setting pensions, but we must be careful about changing to another index.

The July 1992 figure for the increase in RPI is 3.7, but food and fuel and light went up less

than this. Increasing the weight given to these items would therefore have produced a lower RPI.

Yours truly,  
W. K. DUNCAN,  
22 Afon Grove,  
Dunfermline,  
Fife.

## Share certificates

From Mr A. J. Odey

Sir, Letters from Edward Lewis and Dr Ian Jessiman (August 14 and 19) highlight disclaimers by companies and their registrars of any responsibility for non-delivery of share certificates. This can cause much trouble and expense to the innocent individual shareholder. Only rarely will replacements be freely offered, as in the Abbey National flotation fiasco, when thousands of certificates went missing. This is scandalous practice, with its underlying assumption that the institution is infallible and any loss must be the silly investor's fault, is now the standard (including privatisation and rights issues). Some 25 years ago there was a press campaign against the then common practice of dyes and cleaners disclaiming, in small print, all responsibility for damage to clothes entrusted to them, which led to Parliament outlawing the practice. The same is required now re share

certificates and (eventually) Taurus faults. In any case, costly indemnities are a nonsense (the law can be applied against anyone selling shares twice over). Firms should meet the cost of lost certificates: not because they are at fault, but it is hard to say where the fault lies, and a negligible expense to the company may be large to the shareholder. Yours faithfully,  
A. J. OXLEY,  
18 Marriott Close,  
Oxford.

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**BUSINESS TO BUSINESS**  
APPEARS EVERY FRIDAY  
**TELEPHONE DAVID GERMAN**  
**071-481 1982**  
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## Portfolio

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Price	Div	Yld	P/E
1	Yorkshire W	Water	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Usher (Frank)	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Hays	Transport	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Acorn Comp	Electrical	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Urbancore	Foodstuffs	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Queens Mont	Hotels/Res	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Vodafone	Telecom	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Webb Water	Water	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	AAH	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Argus Plc	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Janine Math	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Gr Western Res	Oil/Gas	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Nat Aust Int	Banking/Fin	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Daily Mail Ind	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	Indecore	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Tate & Lyle	Foodstuffs	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Glen	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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20	Abbey Ind	Banking/Fin	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Daglan	Property	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Coastal	Building/Res	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Shell	Oil/Gas	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Tesco	Foodstuffs	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	Progress	Property	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Wiggins	Building/Res	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	BSS Group	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Reed Int	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29	MFI	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	RHM	Foodstuffs	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	Baxmore Ind	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32	Finest Int Dev	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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37	Equinor	Oil/Gas	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38	HK Land	Property	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39	Booth Ind	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40	MEPC	Industrial	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
41	Ashted	Building/Res	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
42	T & S Stores	Drugs/Pharm	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
43	Leeds & Gen	Insurance	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
44	Calor Gas	Oil/Gas	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

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£2.00

Miss B Jones of Petersfield won the £2.00 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday.

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## London helped by Wall St

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end September 4. Settlement day September 14. Share prices are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is re-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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# ACCOUNTANCY TIMES

Two alternative views of the absurdities of the tax system

## Squaring up to the Revenue monster we all love to loathe

By NORMAN BRAIDWOOD

Most people are loath to pay it, but what I dislike about income tax, even more than the pain of parting with the loot, is the bungling way it is organised. For more than 15 years, I have guided self-employed people through the labyrinthine shambles that passes for an income tax system. While trying to explain to them the lunacy of the system, I have seen more eyes glaze over in resigned incomprehension than a Tunisian thief has had hot dinners.

Politicians have tinkered with income tax over the years but there is no political mileage in simplifying "loss relief" or abolishing the "preceding year basis of assessment", so thousands of civil servants, accountants and taxpayers are left muttering muffled curses over tens of thousands of hours of nonsensical computations.

Income tax has a long history. You might hope that governments would have learned from experience and now have its operation finely tuned. Far chance. The combined skills of political opportunists and sedentary jobsworths have ensured that the regulations have, over the decades, evolved into a system that has as much fluidity as congealed semolina.

Some misguided historians believe income tax first crawled out from under a slab in 1799. But records show that thousands of years earlier, in the highly organised cities of Peru, there was a crude form of Inca tax. In ancient Rome,



other paper-sprawling organisation outside Brussels. Ability to pay — a mega-bill arriving three years after one boom year leads to much unwelcome fumbling by the Revenue as they try to take the breaks off a Highlandman.

There is more. We have an income tax system under which it is common for a taxpayer to have some of his affairs dealt with by one tax office and other matters by a different office. When communication between them is necessary, they operate with as much efficiency as a semaphore flag in an

eclipse. If someone is a part-time employee and also self-employed, the tax offices can lose the place entirely in calculating the tax bill. This once led, in my experience, to a letter of apology from the Revenue. That was a nice gesture, but the taxpayer involved would have preferred not to have had the 18 months of misery that preceded it.

Somebody who lets out property will receive a tax demand on January 1, which is to be based on the income up to the following March 31 — yes, the tax is due three months before anybody knows how much is due. That can be

difficult. If he incurs a loss there are myriad interweaving regulations that may, or may not, let him claim tax relief. However, there is no tax relief on value even when it is, to use the taxman's phrase, "wholly and exclusively" required for tax purposes.

My plea is for two basic changes to bring the income tax system into the twentieth century, preferably before we reach the twenty-first. First, one tax office should collate all of one taxpayer's income and allowances. Second, all income should be taxed in the year it arises. Not exactly earth-shattering demands.

The Revenue's savings in their manpower would be substantial. Taxpayers' hair would go grey less quickly. There is one final point: anybody have a job for a redundant accountant?

The author is a partner in Mackenzie Braidwood, of Edinburgh.

## Nonsensical world of VAT tribunals

TO THE outsider, value-added tax must seem puzzling. It was supposed to be a straightforward tax. When White Papers on its creation were appearing in flurries in 1972, Anthony Barber, the then Chancellor, announced that "Britain will have the simplest VAT in all of Europe". Twenty years on, that appears to have been a rather optimistic statement.

The best way of seeing the sheer nonsense that goes on in the VAT world is to look at the disputes that the VAT tribunals have dealt with. If that is the right phrase, over the years. A browse through the latest issue of *Tolley's VAT Cases* brings one closer to the world of AP Herbert's *Misleading Cases* or Beachcomber's courtroom farraos involving Mr Justice Colclough than anything that might have been thought of as the dignified and arcane world of tax legislation.

As a portrait of a nation of eccentric, squabbling business people, continually harassed and confused by pedantic tax authorities, it is hard to beat. One minute you are deep in arguments over "pleasant shoots — contributions by participants towards costs". The next you are plunged into "poolroom — whether separate businesses". But the overwhelming question that the huge number of tribunal decisions pose is whether this sort of thing is really what grown men and women should be devoting their intellect, effort and careers to arguing over.

Take some more examples: hearses — "whether constructed for special purpose"; flat in a tenement — "whether a building"; nursing shawls — "whether suitable for older persons"; pony in show-jumping events — "whether for purposes of practice of an accountant".

As you can see, the tribunals are dealing with some of the most wide-ranging and challenging questions of our time. They are also obsessed with food. Last year's famous "Is a Jaffa Cake a cake or a biscuit?" question was but the tip of the iceberg. For the record, the answer, for tax purposes, is that it is a cake, despite "packaging and marketing more typical of biscuits than of cakes". But the range of questions that this end of the food business has prompted is quite extraordinary. You can start with the relatively straightforward "biscuits for use in the ice-cream trade — whether confectionery" and progress to "chocolate Dundees — whether biscuits".

But it's not all teatime down at the tribunals, despite rulings over "provision of

meals by cricket club for visiting teams". There is also, for example, the historic ruling in 1981 over the scorecards sold at Lord's Cricket Ground. The VAT commissioners had always taken the view that scorecards were zero-rated. But in October 1980, possibly with the arrival of the Australians in the following season in mind, they changed their tune. April 1981 saw a titanic struggle as the Marylebone Cricket Club argued that the cards were, in fact, leaflets. Unfortunately, the cricketing authorities were left with their stumps in disarray. To be classified as leaflets, the printed cards would have to be distributed for a "nominal consideration". As anyone at Saturday's one-day international at Lord's could testify, the price charged for the sheet of printed card is far from nominal.

One might have thought that with 20 years of caselaw, the tribunals would have sorted out most of the questions that might arise. Not so. *Tolley's VAT Cases* is compiled by Alan Delton and Hugh Mainprice and Mr Mainprice has been doing some calculations. The original idea of the tribunals was that they would be independent, cheap and speedy. This is no longer remotely true. They are also reproducing like rabbits. In the first eight years of their existence, they had to deal with 1,000 cases. It took only another three-and-a-half years to reach the next 1,000. Twenty years on, we are nearing the 8,000 cases landmark. Mainprice calculates that if the rate of growth of argument, tribunals and appeals continues, we will reach 100,000 cases a year by 1999. This may do much for the entertainment of the populace, but will not do much for the tax system.

Meanwhile, back to the nonsense. A case in his past year has stirred memories of one of the daftest deliberations in VAT history. Last October, there was much argument over a "guided tour around disused mine including transport in miners' cage". This revolved around whether the time spent in the cage was a separate supply of transport or not. It revived thoughts of the case of the big dipper on Blackpool pleasure beach. In 1974, a tribunal decided that people paying to go on the big dipper were undoubtedly using it primarily as a means of transport from one place to another rather than as fun. It took the Queen's Bench division to rule on appeal that this was patent nonsense, which, like so much of the world of VAT, it was.

The author is the associate editor of *Accountancy Age*



ROBERT BRUCE

## Value may not justify the cost of keeping small audits statutory

Chris Swinson explains why opposition has not deterred the ICA's campaign



Benefits not clear: Chris Swinson, of the ICAEW

TO MANY there may seem to be an odd contrast between the reaction to the Cadbury report by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and its attitude towards the audit of smaller companies.

On the one hand, the ICA strongly supports Cadbury's desire to improve corporate governance and its view of the importance of the auditor in that process. On the other hand, it is urging an abatement in the statutory requirement for the audit of smaller companies. If audits are so valuable for larger companies, why are they not valuable for smaller companies? If audits are important in ensuring the proper governance of the larger companies, why not for smaller?

However, it appears the ICA is not saying that there is nothing gained by the audit of small companies. Auditors help smaller (as larger) companies to ensure that their book-keeping arrangements are sound. They help smaller companies ensure their accounts are reliable and properly prepared and help assess their businesses.

We are not saying that there is no value in the audit of smaller companies. However, we question whether that value justifies the cost of the exercise.

There are fundamental differences between the position of the stakeholders in larger and smaller companies. In the larger, quoted companies with which the Cadbury committee is concerned, there is a division between ownership and management of the business. The general body of shareholders in a quoted company

will not have direct control over the running of the business. Indeed, shareholders may see themselves only as investors who have no wish to be involved in the business's management.

Conversely, management may see shareholders as an interest group which has to be managed. In such cases, the annual report and financial accounts will be the principal communication between management and shareholders, and the auditors play a critical role in validating the information supplied to shareholders.

For most smaller companies, the shareholders are also the management of the business. They will know how the business is progressing by virtue of their role in ensuring that it does progress. They can have whatever regular financial information they need — simply by organising it.

In this environment, the role of auditors in validating the information available to shareholders is at best margin-

al. Of course, the shareholders are not the end of the matter. Annual accounts for private companies do not have to be filed at Companies House until ten months after the end of a financial year. Many are filed later. Even if the information were more readily available, it is limited. The information, whether audited or unaudited, does not enable the reader to make a balanced assessment of the way in which the business is progressing. In short, it is not adequate to enable a creditor to judge the current credit worthiness of a small company.

If this is the case, why do creditors rely on the audited accounts at all? The evidence is that, increasingly, they do not. Any creditor of a smaller business will take one or more steps to protect himself. First, he will try to reduce the credit period so that his exposure to the smaller company is limited. Ideally, he will try to require cash on delivery. Second, he will try to get current credit reports from credit rat-

ing agencies or banks. Third, he will insist on the business's proprietors giving personal guarantees, thus avoiding any limitation of liability. He may even require the provision of regular financial information. In the recession, creditors are increasingly using these steps.

Reliance upon statutory accounts is not necessary to any of these means of protecting a creditor's position. They all provide more protection for the creditor than the audit of the accounts. It is often said that one particular creditor needs an audit to be carried out. How could the Inland Revenue be satisfied that tax liabilities are being properly assessed without audits of smaller companies?

Even here, the benefits of audits of smaller companies are not clear. The Revenue appears able to assess tax liabilities for a large number of unincorporated businesses without the benefit of an audit. Some of these (eg accountancy partnerships) can be large. Their techniques for checking the reasonableness of returns could be just as effective if applied to smaller companies and not obviously more expensive.

In short, for many smaller companies the value of requiring an audit does not seem great for any of those with an interest: Inland Revenue, small creditors, major creditors and shareholders. If the value is not great, why insist on the cost?

The final argument used is that audit is the cost of limiting liability. Why so? It is not the case in many other countries. In the ICA's view, there is nothing achieved by a statutory requirement for the audit of smaller companies that could not be better achieved, at smaller cost, in other ways. If the requirement were removed, creditors could still reach agreement with companies for audits to be carried out, if they wished.

The author is chairman of the ICAEW financial reporting and auditing group.

## Enforcement questioned

From Mr A.W. Sansom  
Sir, Having read Robert Bruce's article on responses to the Cadbury committee's draft report (August 13), I wonder if he states that "nobody has produced any substantial objection to its proposals" and argues that Cadbury's main flaw is the lack of any effective means to ensure compliance with its proposed Code of Practice.

May I refer him to my article *Cadbury needs to hard-*

## LETTERS

en soft centres, 30 July. He will see that I too questioned the effectiveness of Cadbury's enforcement proposals, particularly the role envisaged for the London Stock Exchange.

I noted: "There is nothing in its history to suggest that the Stock Exchange has the will to perform this function."

"The exchange has long been able to use the weapon of delisting against recalcitrant companies but it has never used it."

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW SANSOM,  
Chartered Association of  
Certified Accountants,  
29 Lincoln's Inn Fields,  
WC2.

## Other high fliers

From Dr C.J. Smith  
Sir, You may be interested to learn that Price Waterhouse are not the only Big Six accountancy firm to "fly high" south of the equator (Business Times, July 30) to commercialise airports and air traffic

control services. Nor are they necessarily the first to have done so. Coopers & Lybrand, in association with N M Rothschild, advised the New Zealand Treasury in 1987 on the establishment of the Airways Corporation of New Zealand, which is responsible for the provision of air traffic services.

Since that time, we have worked directly for the Airways Corporation on a range of assignments.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER J. SMITH,  
Air Transport Sector Leader,  
Coopers & Lybrand,  
Plumtree Court,  
EC4.

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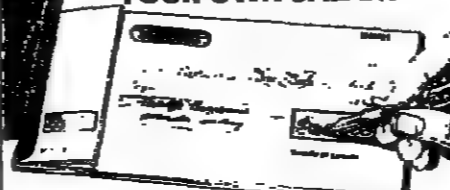
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England player fined and suspended by county over allegations on Pakistan players

## Lamb adds fuel to fire over ball controversy



Ball claims: Lamb leads his county in the field at Northampton yesterday

By ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

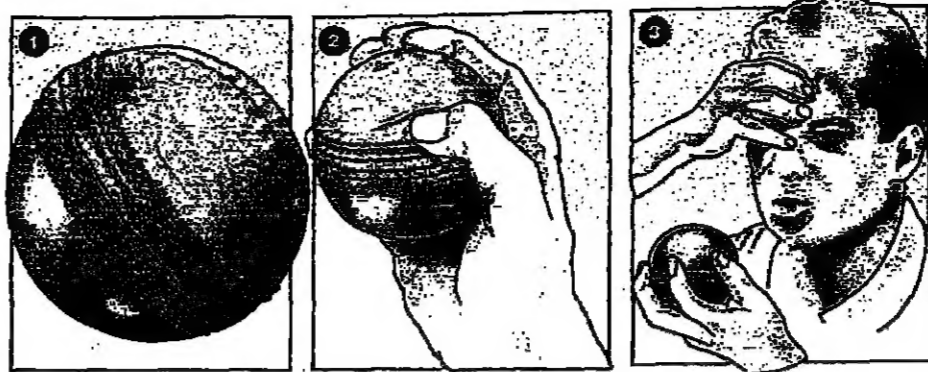
THE great cricket ball controversy, fuelled as much by a clumsy official silence as by any amount of innuendo, was both upgraded and upstaged yesterday, when Allan Lamb, having openly accused the Pakistan bowlers of cheating, was promptly and firmly punished by his county.

Lamb claimed he was acting in the best interests of the game when he said that Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis had been "getting away with murder" and were guilty of "repeatedly tampering with the ball". Northamptonshire, his county, did not agree, and neither does the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB).

A hastily convened committee meeting at Northampton decided that Lamb, the county captain, should be fined the maximum amount allowable, two weeks' wages, and suspended for the next two matches. The TCCB has the power to increase the measures if it sees fit, and its disciplinary committee will meet in the next few days.

Lamb will not suffer unduly from either of his county's strictures. Even a fine of around £2,000 will leave the England batsman with a hefty profit on his dealings with the *Daily Mirror* and the two-match suspension covers only one game in the Sunday League and one in the county championship, competitions which Northamptonshire have no chance of winning. A three-match ban would, significantly, have cost him his place in the NatWest Trophy final on September 5.

Lamb's allegations have outraged Imtiaz Alam, the Pakistan team manager, who called it "a very cowardly attack", adding: "He has only said this because he was paid a lot of money and he knows he will never play for England again."



A cricket ball is scarred in normal use by contact with ground, bat and boundary fencing (figure 1). As the ball wears, the fast bowler tries to keep one side shiny and smooth by polishing to maximise the swing of the ball in the air. Allan Lamb's allegation is that the

Pakistanis used their finger-nails to accentuate the damage to the non-shiny side and thus increase the swing (figure 2). Lamb also said they disguised the damage by smearing sweat over the scarred areas (figure 3). The Pakistanis have strongly refuted the charges.

There is certainly a whiff of expediency about Lamb's actions. I understand it was made plain during the Texaco Trophy games last weekend that he was not likely to be chosen for England's tour of India this winter. Armed with this knowledge, he has justified his lucrative outburst by saying: "I just couldn't stand by and see them getting away with breaking the laws of cricket time and again. In my view... it is cheating."

At the age of 38, with 79 Tests behind him, Lamb appears to have tacitly accepted

that his England career is over. He will feel aggrieved and mistreated, having had a good season with the bat, and in appointing himself "a spokesman for the players" he assumes rather too much.

Whether further action is forthcoming from Northamptonshire, who may consider he has compromised his position as captain, Lamb could now decide to end his career elsewhere, possibly with another county or even in his native South Africa, where he has a standing offer to return to Western Province.

So far, of course, nobody has officially confirmed that the ball change during the play at Lord's on Sunday — which Lamb claims to have personally prompted by bringing its condition to the attention of the umpires — was made under the law relating to unfair play. This is the great culpability of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Once Deryck Murray, the match referee, had made the ball change public, it made no sense to keep the reason secret.

Murray's report, which he apparently, if unbelievably,

put in the post, reached the ICC at Lord's late yesterday. Lt-Col John Stephenson, the secretary, is expected to make a statement today.

Pakistan's reaction to this will be fascinating. Playing the last game of their tour, at Scarborough, they have repeatedly insisted they are innocent of all charges. A confirmation that Law 42 was applied would make this plea untenable and might also put a brake on the litigation, continuing across against newspapers and threatened, yesterday, against Lamb.

The greatest danger of this whole sorry business, however, is that people are being led to believe the Pakistanis have revolutionised the game by doctoring the ball. In fact, even if proved guilty, they are doing nothing that has not gone on for generations past.

As David Lloyd, former Test cricketer and first-class umpire, said yesterday: "The whole thing is a hoot. People have been picking the seam for years. I've done it myself."

Lloyd puts the matter in perspective. Maltreating the ball is not new. England players are neither surprised nor offended by it. The difference in this case is that Wasim and Waqar are magnificent exponents of the fast bowling art, a fact which is increasingly being submerged.

## Wasim and Waqar issue firm denial

WAQAR Younis and Wasim Akram, the Pakistan bowlers who are the subject of Lamb's ball-doctoring allegations, issued a rebuttal last night. A statement issued through the players' agent, Jonathan Barnett, and Brian Moore, a solicitor, said: "We have read the various articles which have appeared in the press over the last few days which accuse us of cheating in the recent Test series against England."

"We categorically deny that

we have ever cheated or tampered illegally with any match ball in any game during our careers. The allegations made are deeply offensive to us and the entire Pakistani team."

"We have played in this country for both Lancashire and Surrey county cricket clubs and have bowled hundreds of overs for both counties. We have played in numerous county and Test games on a variety of grounds throughout the world; we have

taken hundreds of wickets on all different types of surfaces. At no time has any umpire official or administrator had cause to allege we have done anything illegal."

"It is significant that these allegations are only now being made after we have beaten England in a Test series. It is very convenient to blame the failure of the English players' batting techniques on us."

"We are amazed that a fellow professional has

stooped so low as to make such unfounded comments in the papers. We can only guess at Allan Lamb's motives for his article in *The Daily Mirror*, but we hope that they are nothing so base as money or even worse our nationality."

"The upset and damage which has been caused to us by these articles is an extremely serious matter. We are taking details, legal advice and our rights to sue for damages are fully reserved."

## Berger joins Ferrari

FERRARI yesterday announced that Gerhard Berger had signed a two-year deal with them, with an option for a third (Norman Howell writes). He will be joining Jean Alesi to form what a Ferrari spokesman called "the strongest team pair now in Formula One".

The deal is surprising, as there was no indication that the Austrian was unhappy at

McLaren, and suggests that he did not think that the English team would have a competitive engine for 1994.

Ron Dennis, the owner of McLaren, denied that the engine was an important factor in Berger's decision. "I am not upset at Gerhard leaving. Ferrari have offered him a more attractive package and I understand his desire to move on that basis," he said.

Another Premier League failure demonstrates Tottenham's need for Sheringham

## Cantona restores Leeds pride

By LOUISE TAYLOR

HOWARD Wilkinson prides himself on his man-management, and with good reason. If Tuesday night's performance at Elland Road is anything to go by, Wilkinson's Leeds United trounced Tottenham Hotspur 5-0 to avenge for last Saturday's embarrassing 4-1 defeat at Middlesbrough.

Tottenham have yet to win a Premier League fixture. Without the departed Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker, they were not overburdened in the creativity department, and seem likely to renew attempts to attract Teddy Sheringham, the Nottingham Forest forward, to White Hart Lane in a £2 million transfer.

By contrast, Leeds, last sea-

son's Football League champions, seem to have found both flair and finishing in one player — Eric Cantona. The *enfant terrible* of French football emphasised his adjustment to the English game with three goals.

After Rodney Wallace had put Leeds ahead and Cantona contributed his three, the Frenchman created the fifth, for Lee Chapman.

Liverpool's less than lively start to the season continued at Portman Road, where they were lucky to draw 2-2 with Ipswich. Jason Dozzell and Chris Kiwomya were on target for the home side, while Mark Walters and Jan Molby, with a debatable penalty, scored for Liverpool. Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, said:

"If that penalty had been awarded against us I would have been disappointed."

Crystal Palace's 1-1 draw with Sheffield Wednesday at Selhurst Park featured a danger from Nigel Martyn in the Palace goal. Midway through the second half Martyn dropped a corner from the impressive Chris Bart-Williams at the feet of Paul Williams, who hooked in an equaliser.

An equaliser, Palace had gone ahead thanks to Eric Young's header from an earlier corner. Maurice Johnston's future at Everton has been the subject of much recent speculation but the former Scottish international had the perfect response for his critics at Goodison Park. Johnston's 88th minute goal gave Aston

Villa a 1-0 win over Everton.

The Wimbledon old boys reunion at Bramall Lane ended in a 2-2 draw between Dave Bassett's Sheffield United and Wimbledon. That means that Bassett has never celebrated a win against Wimbledon since leaving London SW19. Glyn Hodges, once of Wimbledon, tried his best to remedy Bassett's record by scoring United's second goal.

Robert Lee scored one goal and made two others as Charlton Athletic went five points clear at the head of the first division of the Football League by beating Bristol Rovers 4-1 at Upton Park. Lee is expected to sign for Middlesbrough by the weekend.

Notts County lost the night's other first division fixture 2-1 to Watford at Meadow Lane. Jason Drysdale and Paul Furlong, fresh from Coventry, scored for Watford.

Andrew Cole, the forward signed by Bristol City from Arsenal for £500,000 this summer, has done little else but score goals since arriving in the West County. He claimed another three in the Coca-Cola Cup first round, second leg, at Ashton Gate. City prevailed 5-0 on the night and 5-1 on aggregate.

In surprise cup results, Exeter City knocked out Birmingham City and Carlisle United removed Burnley.

## Auxerre teenagers head for Leeds

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

LEEDS have emerged as favourites to sign two of the brightest young talents in British football. This follows talks between Howard Wilkinson and Guy Roux, the manager of the French club, Auxerre.

For weeks the players have been wiling away their time playing beach football as wrangles over their possible transfers have gone on. They are the former England youth internationals, Jamie Forrester and Kevin Sharp, both 17.

After graduating from the FA School of Excellence, the Blackpool-based players turned their backs on British football and signed for Auxerre.

Now out of contract with Auxerre and homesick, they have interested three Premier League clubs. Auxerre's original £400,000 valuation for the pair has dropped and the players' agent is seeking permission from France for them to train in England following increased interest by Leeds, who have been in talks with Auxerre.

They are expected to spend a week at Elland Road, when personal terms will be discussed. Forrester said: "We

have been in a state of limbo for weeks. We have been back in Blackpool as phone calls and faxes have been going on between England and France since we turned down Auxerre's offer of a three-year contract. All we want is for the matter to be sorted out as quickly as possible."

Forrester, a forward, and Sharp, who plays in midfield, have played together since they were at junior school. They accept that the partnership may end.

Charlton, the first division leaders, are involved in a race against time to secure their return to The Valley. Charlton, still £200,000 short of the sum needed to finance an October return, are legally bound to confirm plans tomorrow. Supporters have contributed more than £1 million to the Valley Investment Plan. Club officials were last night in talks to raise funds.

Martin Simons, a director, confirmed: "The cut-off point is Friday, when we must decide to resume building work or repay all the money to supporters. We will be negotiating up to the wire to raise the outstanding sum. We do not want to go ahead with work and run out of money."

## The culling fields



IN the Saturday Review this week, how deer are eating the Highlands to destruction. Plus: Gordon Burn on romance at Victoria coach station and William Cash meets Hugh Hefner, finding the creator of Playboy uneasy in a post-feminist world.

THE TIMES

## Taylor to study Durie's case

GORDON Taylor is to spend the remainder of this week debating whether to defend Gordon Durie (Louise Taylor writes). Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), will study video evidence and a referee's report before deciding whether to defend the Tottenham Hotspur forward against a Football Association charge of feigning injury to get an opponent dismissed.

Durie, a former Scottish international, faces the first such charge to be made against a professional footballer after an incident at White Hart Lane last week when he and Andy Pearce, the Coventry central defender, were both booked after an apparent head-butting incident.

Dermot Gallagher, the referee, subsequently accused Durie of acting and, after studying his official report,

formally charged the player on Tuesday. Taylor yesterday said: "It is a very serious charge to level against any professional sportsman and I know that the player will be strenuously refuting the allegation."

Durie was given 14 days from Tuesday in which to request a personal hearing against the charge. Taylor must decide whether Durie or the referee is in the right.

## Leading players fail to support English Open

By MITCHELL PLATT  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TOM Watson, the United States captain, has expressed the hope that all his players will visit The Belfry before the Ryder Cup match next year. Yet Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Sandy Lyle, José María Olazábal and Ian Woosnam, who are likely to form the nucleus of Europe's team, have declined the chance to refamiliarise themselves with the course in the Murphy's English Open, which starts tomorrow, despite a prize fund of £550,000.

Bernard Gallacher, the captain of Europe, will be disappointed, although not nearly so much as the sponsors or BBC Television, planning to screen approximately six hours of live play, or the spectators.

This is not to demean the likes of Colin Montgomerie and Steven Richardson, David Feherty and Sam Torrance, Anders Forsbrand and Vijay Singh, all respected players.

But they have been given the unenviable task, along with the rest of the supporting cast, of satisfying, above all, the board of Whitbread plc, the company that markets Murphy's.

The promoters, PGA European Tour Enterprises (PGA

ETE), were put in a difficult position two months ago when EGP, a partner in the venture, went out of business. George O'Grady, the PGA ETE managing director, put together a rescue package of which he is justifiably proud, even though he failed to hook one of the big fish.

Ballesteros could not be enticed from Spain because his wife, Carmen, is expecting their second child next month. Faldo said long ago that he would take a break after the US PGA championship. Olazábal refused to abandon a shooting holiday. Langer is concerned with the health of his daughter and Lyle and Woosnam found a

little gentle persuasion not to be generous enough.

Questions are sure to be asked at Whitbread's head-



Montgomerie on parade

quarters in London. The company could withdraw its support in the future, but the likelihood is that it will give the benefit of the doubt to the promoters. It will, however, want an assurance that one or more of the very best European players will compete in future.

The Tour has increased the total prize-money from £2 million to £20 million in ten years, however, if it is to continue to beat the recession, it will need to satisfy sponsors that it has the support of all players.

Whitbread was encouraged to relinquish the Murphy's Cup, in which both Lyle and Woosnam played and in

which the prize-money in 1991 was £350,000, in favour of the English Open and awarded the players a 63.63 per cent pay rise.

But the only one of the top 20 in the Sony world rankings on view will be Roger Davis, who is eighteenth. Moreover, only four of the present top ten in the Volvo order of merit have entered.

It is not what Whitbread envisaged. The PGA European Tour can probably be assured of the brewery's continued backing as long as the support of the players can be guaranteed. If not, sponsors might be tempted to look elsewhere.

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